

No. 65,564

MARATHON MORE FLORA LONDON MARATHON FINISHERS **PAGE 41**

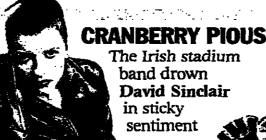


VALERIE GROVE meets Martin Mears, man of maverick legal opinions

FRIDAY APRIL 26 1996



Families that opt for teaching at home, PAGE 39



PAGE 37

THE GIRL IN GOAL Rachel Brown makes history as the youngest FA Cup **PAGE 48**

Three new

CJD cases

found in

commuter

town By JEREMY LAURANCE, JOANNA BALE

AND PETER FOSTER

THREE people have developed Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in a Kent town where BSE, "mad cow" disease, was

Two of the victims, from

Ashford, are men aged 29 and

confirmed that one is suffering

from the new variant of CJD

which has been linked with BSE in beef. The third victim.

a woman aged 59, is thought

to have the form of CID that

The two men bring to 14 the

total of confirmed and suspect-

ed cases of the new variant of CJD which triggered a

Europe-wide scare over Brit-

ish beef. The new variant

affects the young; the other

form is rare in people under

40. A fourth patient from the area, a 29-year-old woman

solicitor from Canterbury. died of CJD last month.

Barry Baker, 29, a father of

two, from High Halden, near

Tenterden, has been in hospi-

tal for the past three months.

Before his condition was rec-

ognised, he was treated at the

mental health unit of the

William Harvey hospital. Mr

Baker, a self-employed wood-

cutter, is now in a different part of the espital and his

affects older people.

first identified.

Lives spared by detonation failure

Bridge bombs were IRA's biggest ever

By Michael Evans and Stewart Tendler

TWO Semtex bombs that failed to go off under Hammersmith Bridge on Wednesday night were the biggest ever planted by the IRA on mainland Britain.

The planned Easter Rising anniversary "spectacular" — using 30 to 40lb of Semtex would have blasted the structure of the west London bridge and threatened the lives of hundreds of residents in nearby flats had the detonators worked properly.

Yesterday, as urgent checks were made on other bridges. the Government and police were studying the implica-tions of the IRA's apparent intention of causing such a massive explosion in advance of the Northern Ireland elections on May 30.

John Major warned Sinn Fein once again to have "no truck" with violence and said that unless the bombings stopped, it would be barred from the all-party peace talks-

Scotland Yard said that the Hammersmith bomb was designed to kill, maim and cause huge damage to the suspension bridge as well as transport chaos. One expert said that had the IRA placed the explosives along the main cable, the whole structure would have collapsed. At first, police investigating

two minor explosions at the south end of the bridge as-sumed that the IRA had planted a small device, similar to that which exploded in the Boltons, South Kensington, last week. That contained half a pound of Semtex.

However, Scotland Yard said yesterday that between 30 and 40lb of the Czech-made commercial high explosive had been found in two briefcase-sized wooden boxes on the unlit towpath. The detonators had exploded, but the Semtex had failed to ignite.

Much larger devices have been planted and exploded including the Docklands bomb in February and the one at Bishopsgate in the City exactly three years ago - but from home-made, fertiliserbased explosives.

Wednesday's attack, on the anniversary of the Easter Ris-



Hammersmith Bridge: bombs were on the towpath

ing in Dublin on April 24. 1916, came after a new warning from senior Royal Ulster Constabulary officers to chief constables this week that the IRA was concentrating on mainland attacks. However, even the RUC was shocked by the size of the

device. "Normally the IRA don't like to waste so much Semtex in one device," one Ulster security expert said. It also suggested that the

IRA may have a large amount of Semtex stored on the mainland, having continued rearming throughout the 17month ceasefire.

Security sources said the bomb was likely to have been the work of one or two men with only adequate bombmaking skills. Even if the detonators had worked efficiently and set off the explosives, the position of the bomb would have meant that some of the blast would have dissipated.

did not believe that the attack meant that the most extreme members of the Provisional IRA Army Council had rejected the political path pursued by Sinn Fein. Rather, IRA leaders believed that bomb explosions played a valuable part in pressuring the Govern-ment to offer political

concessions. They may have taken com-fort from the fact that within days of the Docklands bomb in February, which killed two people and caused more than È100 million of damage, John Major announced the date for all-party talks.

Bridge bombers, page 7



Release a 'victory for love and truth'

By Carol Midgley

JONATHAN JONES, the businessman jailed for murdering his girlfriend's parents, was freed by the Court of Appeal yesterday after three judges took five minutes to decide that the convictions

Cheryl Tooze, his partner of 15 years who had fought a long and dedicated campaign to prove his innocence, ran to the dock and kissed him through the iron bars as the decision

was announced. She said she would fight on to find whoever did shoot Harry and Megan Tooze at their farmhouse in

Llanharry, Mid Glamorgan, in July 1993. Mr Jones, 36, who had sat pale and gaunt throughout the four-day hearing, closed his eyes and slumped in his seat as Lord Justice Rose said: "This court is of the clear view that these convictions are unsafe for reasons which we shall give on a future occasion. Accordingly, the convictions

will be quashed and the defen-dant will be discharged."

Outside the court, Mr Jones said that he was furious at an announcement by South Wales police that they would not be launching a fresh investigation into the murders, adding: "We will be pressing for a continuation of these investigations by a competent authority."

Miss Tooze, who now hopes to start a family and may even go back to live at the farm-

house which is at present

being rented out, said that the judge's ruling was a victory for love and truth.

"My confidence in Jonathan never faltered. I'm absolutely delighted. It has been a long fight but my fight is not over yet. I have got Jonathan released. My intention is to carry on and find out who killed my parents.

"I think the legal system has an awful lot to answer for". Miss Tooze said that her reward of £25,000 for informa-Continued on page 3, col 6 condition is said to be very poor. His fartner. Esther. declined to comment yesterday. The Euple have two daughters aged five and two.

The other male suspected CJD sufferer is Graham Brown, 36, a fireman from Ashford who has been cared for by his sister and her husband. Colleagues at Maidstone Fire Station said Mr Brown, "Hovis" to his workmates, was a member of the station's Red Watch.

It was Colin Whitaker, an Ashford veterinary surgeon, who diagnosed the first case of BSE in cattle in 1985.

Legal challenge, page 2

NatWest fined by watchdog

National Westminster Bank has been fined £75,000 with costs of £45,000 by the City regulator responsible for fund managers on two charges of breaking rules relating to its tax-free Personal Equity Plan business, which has 70,000 customers Page 25



The Times on the Internet

Shops hope for VAT bonanza

By Jon Ashworth

SHOPS and discount stores selling goods on interest-free credit could be free to reclaim up to £5 billion in overpaid VAT, after a landmark ruling in the Court of Appeal. The case covers everything from washing machines to carpets, and could start a discount war among store chains.

Customs & Excise plans to appeal to the Lords against the ruling, which covers goods sold on interest-free credit from the day VAT was introduced on April I, 1973. Shoppers will not be able to seek discounts on goods paid for.

Blow to Customs, page 2

SATURDAY IN THE TIMES

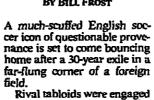


for half price, in Weekend What Labour would

mean for your money, in Weekend Money 32 pages of home style

and inspiration, in the

BY BILL FROST



in a bidding war last night for possession of the ball which Geoff Hurst slid past the West German goalkeeper three times in the World Cup Final at Wembley in 1966.

The Sun showed early promise but in the second half of the day the Daily Mirror appeared to gain supremacy with a reported offer of £80,000 for a talisman that fans hope will restore the fortunes of the England side. Having scored a hat-trick in the 4-2 final, Hurst was the ball's official guardian. How-ever, he failed to notice that his prize had been taken from the field by the West German

striker, Helmut Haller. Yesterday Herr Haller, after much badgering from the British media, agreed to give us back our icon.

However, doubts have been raised over the ball's prove-

nance, with at least two serious contenders in the frame and a host of substitutes waiting on the bench.

Herr Haller had previously told the press that the ball was lost. Yesterday he said that it had lain neglected in the cellar of his son, Jürgen.

Urged on by The Sun and then the Daily Mirror, he agreed to hand the ball over in return for a donation to a children's cancer charity.



"British people have been pestering me. They have been phoning me for the past three days, saying that the ball belonged to England, he said from his Augsburg home.

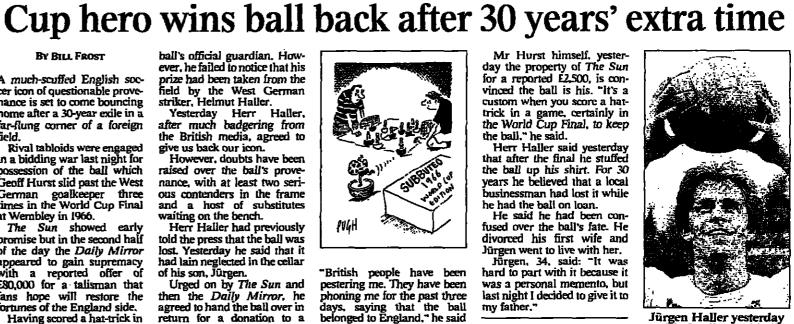


he had the ball on loan. He said he had been con-fused over the ball's fate. He divorced his first wife and Jürgen went to live with her.

the ball," he said.

Jürgen, 34, said: "It was hard to part with it because it was a personal memento, but last night I decided to give it to

Leading article, page 21





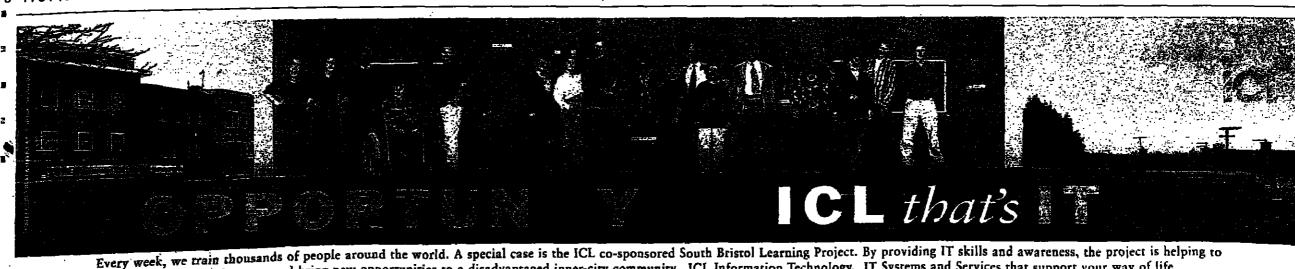
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generate employment and bring new opportunities to a disadvantaged inner-city community. ICL Information Technology. IT Systems and Services that support your way of life

Playground sneer exposes head prefect

erhaps for the first time to the Prime Minister to mock. since he became a national figure. Tony Blair conducted himself in the Commons yesterday in a way that looked shabby. It was a gift which the Prime Minister managed to turn, but only partially, to his advantage.

The Labour leader chose to sneer at John Major on the defeat the previous night of part of the Government's Divorce Bill.

A coalition of MPs, including four members of the Cabinet, had voted to extend the "cooling off" period in certain divorces. The Tories had permitted their MPs a "free vote" on this, as it was an issue of conscience.

Mr Blair used his questions

His assault foundered, though on television it may have looked more impressive.

Decrying the Divorce Bill reverse, the Labour leader asked when the Prime Minister was going to "talk tough" with his Cabinet. Sir Edward Heath's face as Blair repeated his taunts

about the free vote was a picture of derision. It would be interesting to subject Blairian prose over the past two years to the sort of computer analysis that liter-

Whenever contested, Blair is given to interjecting "look!" (as n "look here") into his speech. He is fond of what you might

ary scholars use to delve into

Shakespeare's osvche.



call boss-words. Phrases like "talk tough". "sort out", "get a grip" - the vocabulary of mastery and control - would be picked up repeatedly by our wordsearch. Blair relishes a high-noon quality and likes his prose to walk tall.

To deride opponents he habitually chooses the vocabulary of weakness, indiscipline, doubt, ambiguity and hesitation. His favourite stick with which to beat the Government is the grown-up version of "cowardy-cowardy custard/ Your legs are made of mus-

tard". It is remarkable how seldom, and cautiously, he chooses instead to argue that the Government is wrong.

Likewise with critics within his own party: avoiding the substantive argument. Blair remarks that there is "no going back" — as though his critics' error had been in some way to falter, to fail to face up to the future.

Those whom it would be absurd to call cowards are accused instead of being sick in the head. It will escape none who has

been to boarding school that such are the traits of one of nature's head prefects. We learnt at school that the best way to handle these people is not to cross them, but to give them more rope and wait. Fate is perhaps waiting to give Mr

Blair furlongs more. John Major has almost the opposite problem, as vesterday's exchange showed. He had a good case, a moral case, and a simple one that free votes for MPs on matters of conscience were something a Prime Minister should be oroud to allow

He could have stated this crisply, as if to some sanctimonious whippersnapper whose below-the-belt punch had failed ludicrously. Instead Mr Major became tremendously indignant.

He railed against Mr Blair as might a child who had been falsely accused by an adult. On and on he went, his voice almost breaking with rightcous anger by the end.

Though noisily supported throughout by the government benches, the Prime Minister's case did not grow stronger by its ever more strident repetition.

Such was his irritation that one began to wonder whether Blair might not be right after all to suspect a cock-up.

The Prime Minister won: but, for a man with the steely core that Major possesses, it is odd how often he chooses to

New EU eye test for lorry drivers delayed

The Government is to postpone the introduction of a new European Union eye test for lorry drivers, which crities claim will cost 3,000 people their jobs. Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary, said that introduction would be put back six months to January 1, 1997.

The test will require drivers to have adequate sight in both eyes without glasses or contact lenses, rather than just one eye as now. The Transport Department said the proposed changes were highly complex and the Government needed more time to consider the issues raised. Graham Allen, a Labour transport spokesman, said the decision was "a victory for common sense".

New transport policy paper, page 5

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Pupils protest over head

Hundreds of pupils at a grant-maintained school protested when governors reprieved the head teacher over expense claims. Len Brazier, head of the 1,500-papil Gilberd School in Colchester, Esser, was dismissed for gross negligence in February after an 13-month dispute. A five-hour appeal hearing by five governors overturned the full governing body's decision and reinstated him with a written warning

Rocket range rejected

The Ministry of Defence's plan to use the Otterburn area of Northumberland National Park for live firings of the Army's multiple-launch rocket system was rejected by the county council's policy and resources committee. Thedecision is expected to be supported by the full council on May 15. The scheme would have involved hadding new tracks over the moors and a maintenance denot

Peanut butter warning

Children who have a family history of allergies should avoid eating nuts before their third birthday and possibly up to their seventh to avoid the risk of developing a potentially fatal reaction, doctors say. Giving peanut butter to infants too soon after weaning may lead to early sensitisation to nuts and a lifetime of serious risk, says Dr Pamela Ewan, writing in the British Medical Journal.

Corrupt PC jailed

A policeman was jailed for three years at St Albans Crown Court after offering to lose police files on drink-drivers in return for eash. PC Roger Greene, 32, used Thames Valley Police notepaper to type letters to accused motorists. He asked for between £300 and £500 to ensure the case went no further. Greene, of Woodley, Reading, was convicted of five charges of corruption.

Scotland's landed lairds

Half of Scotland is owned by 608 people while the number of foreigners buying large tracts of land in the past 25 years has increased four-fold, according to a new book. Who Owns Scotland, by Andy Wightman, lists the top 100 private lairds. Buccleuch Estates is Scotland's biggest landowner with 261,600 acres and the National Trust for Scotland. fourteenth 25 years ago, is in second place.

Tube death demand

A coroner has urged London Underground to tighten safety on old rolling stock following an inquest into the death of a computer student at Stockwell station, south London. A jury at Southwark Coroners Court returned a Jadavii Bhardia died when he was dragged down the

Rattle wins culture prize

The conductor Sir Simon Rattle has won the annual £30,000 Shakespeare Award, whose previous recipients include Graham Greene and Harold Pinter. The Alfred Toepfer Foundation, presenting the prize in Hamburg, noted that Sir Simon had "rejected the jet-set attitudes of many of his colleagues and has remained loyal to the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra for over 16 years".

Chances of early tax cuts are dented by court ruling on VAT

By Jon Ashworth

SHOPS that have sold goods on interest-free credit could reclaim up to £5 billion in VAT after a landmark ruling in the Court of Appeal vesterday. It held that Customs and Excise has been wrong in charging tax on interest-free

An appeal will be made to the House of Lords but, if yesterday's judgment is upheld, it would limit further the Chancellor's scope for tax cuts before the general election. A bill of £5 billion is the equivalent of 3p on income tax.

The ruling covers the differ-

ence between the amount nominally charged for goods bought under interest-free credit and the amount the

By JON ASHWORTH

HUGH MAINPRICE helped

to draft many of the rules that

proved the undoing of Cus-

He began his career in the

colonial legal ser-ice, helping with the secon-prosecution

of Jomo Kenyatia in Kenya.

He joined Customs and Excise in 1966 and as senior

toms and Excise.

Man with insider's view

instance, a shopper buying a sofa interest-free for £480 would pay by instalments to a finance company. The company would keep about £30 to cover interest charges and pay £450 to the retailer.

Until yesterday retailers paid VAT on the full amount. including the £30. Yesterday's ruling accepted that they should pay VAT only on the £450 and were entitled to be reimbursed for money they had paid in the past dating back to the introduction of VAT in 1973.

The case was brought by the Kingsway Furniture Group. parent company to Primback Ltd, which is in liquidation but which will now receive a backpayment of \$2.75 million. Customs said that other claims would have to wait for

legal assistant, drafted much

of the initial VAT legislation.

Mr Mainprice. 68. of

Bayswater. London, set up

his own practice a year before

introduction of VAT on April

1, 1973. Mainprice & Com-

pany has represented more VAT tribunal case appellants

than any other. His daughter

Clare, a barrister, works for

the House of Lords appeal, which is unlikely to be heard before next year. However, tax specialists

said retailers would be free to reclaim surplus VAT immediately. Individual shoppers will not be able to seek extra discounts on goods already paid for. The real benefit would come in future months. when lower VAT charges would be passed on to the consumer. Peter Jenkins, VAT partner

in the accountants Ernst & Young, said: "It is a massive reversal for Customs, and means, in effect, that retailers can claim back to 1973. This is another large case that they have lost."

Hugh Mainprice, one of the country's leading VAT experts who needs the firm responsible for the victory, said: "Although the decision was based on the sale of furniture it has established a precedent for a large range of consumer durables, including cameras. household goods such as washing machines and cookers, cameras, carpets, cars and other goods offered for sale on interest-free credit terms."

The Retail Credit Research Group said that interest-free credit accounted for 17 per cent of its members' sales, or some



By PHILIP WEBSTER IN LONDON AND CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

FARMERS won approval yesterday for a legal challenge the European Union's worldwide ban on Brinsh beef amid fresh doubts over whether the Government will be able to secure its early lifting.

Douglas Hogg, the Agricul-ture Minister, insisted in the Commons that Britain's latest plan to slaughter up to 42,000 more cows will only be carried out if there are clear indications that the ban will be eased. But Brussels gave no-tice that it would not be bound by any "preconditions" on the lifting of the ban, and British government sources continued to downplay the likelihood of anything more than a possible easing of the ban at Monday's meeting of farm While Jacques Santer, the

President of the European Commission, called the proposals a step in the right direction. Commission officials said that the scheme amounted to "a set of ideas" rather than a formal plan. In Germany, officials said Britain's reluctance to commit itself to a bigger slaughter programme would not win it much sympathy at the farm

Mr Hogg told MPs that the Government was developing a more flexible approach" to stressed he had made clear to Herr Fischler that he would only consider implementing the slaughter scheme in the

context of the lifting of the ban. Conservative Euro-sceptics continued their calls for a tougher line against Europe. William Cash called for the suspension of Britain's payments to the EU, which he said would not be illegal. This is purely a cash-flow situation. If Michael Heseltine

has said that he paid his own bills late then so can we." Christopher Gill. a former

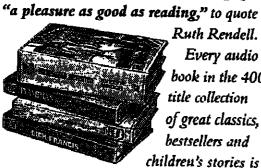
farmer and vice-chairman of the Tory backbench agriculture committee, asked Mr. Hogg for an assurance that if the ban was not lifted by the EU next week, he would "assert the authority of this House" by giving instructions in his department to start reissuing export licences for British beef to non-EU countries

Meanwhile a judge gave the NFU and other representatives of the meat industry the go-ahead for an urgent referral of the ban to the European Court of Justice.

to seek a judicial review of Ministry of Agriculture and Customs and Excise refusals to issue health certificates for live animals destined for export and against the decision to withdraw certificates required for the export of the meat of bovine animals slaughtered in the UK. The application is in reality a vehicle for the British to seek a European Court ruling against the ban.

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Euro 96 hooligans cannot be identified By Stephen Farrell

DUTCH police are banned from giving British detectives details of football hooligans they suspect of planning trouble at the Euro 96 championship, detectives admitted yesterday. Strict privacy laws in The Netherlands forbid the disclosure of personal information about Dutch nationals to other countries.

The restrictions stop them supplying the names and pictures of 47 fans arrested in riots after Holland's match against Germany in Rotterdam on Wednesday night. Two people were stabbed and a state of emergency declared.

Police and security experts played down the implications at a Council of Europe summit held in London yesterday to discuss policing the June tour-nament. Chief Inspector Lex Heys, of the Dutch football vandalism unit, said his country's football association was working with the English FA to ban 300 fans barred from

stadiums in Holland. "Our Government has a database of hooliganism over the last five years but we are not allowed to give a large blacklist to other authorities," he said. Chief Inspector Leys. whose Utrecht-based squad is the counterpart of the UK's National Criminal Intelligence Service football unit, added: "We can compensate by sending spotters to identify our hooligans to your police forces and we will do whatever your police ask, such as giving them as much information as we can about the fans' travel-

ling arrangements."

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WITED OFFER

Suffering of the girlfriend who never gave up

AND ROBERT CRAMPTON

THE campaign which yesterday won the freedom of Jonathan Jones has had a devastating effect on his girl-friend. Cheryl Tooze never doubted he was innocent of killing her parents, but the stress of the case has caused continual ailing health. The arrest of her boyfriend

of 15 years, following the trauma of losing her mother and father, led to psychiatric treatment and a series of antidepressants. She has lost more than a stone in weight and has a stomach ulcer. Her hair, which three years ago was long and red, is now cut short and turning grey.
The ill-health has forced

Miss Tooze, 36, to give up her work as a market researcher.

Friends say she has aged ten years in less than three

"I really know Jonathan," she said during the legal fight. "I'd say Throw away the key" if I thought he'd done it."
She did not believe it when

police called at their flat in Orpington, south-east London, to arrest him on December 7, 1993. She did not believe it in May last year when the jury at Newport Crown Court found him guilty, or when the judge called him a pitiless killer. It only strengthened her resolve when members of her family - notably her aunt Cynthia, her father's sister turned against Jonathan and launched their own countercampaign, collecting hun-dreds of signatures to keep him in prison. Miss Tooze.

who met her partner when

anyone in my life and nor has Jonathan." She did not attend the original trial last April, as her

boyfriend told her not to come. He was so confident of acquittal, his biggest worry was media intrusion. The next day, she began working towards an appeal with his solicitors Stuart Hutton and Layla Attfield, both so convinced of his innocence they gave their initial services free. Miss Tooze put up a £25,000 reward for information lead-

ing to the conviction of the killers - part of her £150,000 inheritance which was said to have been Mr Jones's motive for murder. The defence team painstakingly re-examined their case, going back over key alibi witnesses. The breakthrough came when they spoke to lift engineers whom Mr Jones claimed he had seen at 1.30pm in Orpington when he returned home for lunch on the July 23, 1993 - the exact

time of the murders. Originally, the engineers said they were on a break, so he could not have seen them. But a till receipt from a DIY shop in south London, where their supervisor had bought equipment prior to picking them up for lunch, showed their timings could have been up to an hour out. They gave new statements confirming







Cheryl Tooze's murdered father Harry, and her mother with Jonathan Jones. An artist's impression, right, was undermined at the appeal

that they may have been wrong about the time and confirmed what Mr Jones claimed he had seen - a man crouching down mixing ce-

the block of flats. Miss Tooze, who now lives with her boyfriend's parents. Graham and Pauline, in South Wales, has made weekly 52-hour round-trips to Gartree prison in Leicestershire to see him. They talked of their cat and plans for a holiday. Mr Jones lost more than two stone.

ment in the entrance hall of

Ms Attfield, his solicitor at Hutton's in Cardiff, said: "We have got to know Jonathan very well. He is very wellspoken, and that has made his life difficult often in prison. He has spoken about some of the beatings he has witnessed between inmates and how it

The 36-year-old market researcher considered suicide after his conviction. He was encouraged to fight on only by his family and Miss Tooze.

Last year, for an interview for The Times Magazine, she revisited the isolated farmhouse where her parents were murdered. She recalled: "When I heard they had found the bodies, I felt as if everything had been drained out of me. I packed a case, put custard and jumpers in it, silly

She used to have nightmares about her parents. "I dream they are alive and when I wake up they're dead. I dream Jonathan is free, and when I wake up he is in

This morning, at least half

'Victory for love and truth'

Jones, his clothes and belongings found not a single speck

of blood - even though Mr

Tooze was said to have suf-

fered such extensive head

injuries that the killer would

have been "liberally splat-tered". No witnesses had seen

him at the farm that day - he

said he was in Orpington 200

miles away - and the prosecu-

tion conceded that they could

not establish a financial

Continued from page 1 tion leading to the conviction of the killers still stood.

Mr Jones, who was planning a champagne celebration with Miss Tooze and his father, said that his 17 months in prison had been horrendous and that he felt overwhelming relief.

Mr Tooze, 64, a retired fruit farmer, and his wife, 67, were each shot in the back of the head at their 10-acre smallholding in what was described as a "planned and pitiless execution". Their bodies were hidden in a cowshed and covered with hay bales.

motive for the killing. The Crown had claimed The single piece of scientific that Mr Jones had travelled to evidence against him was a the farm and had tea with the partial thumbprint on a china

couple before shooting them, saucer in the Toozes's kitchen then drove back to Oroington. But the Court of Appeal was told that Mr Jones had visited Kent, where he shared a flat the house many times and with Miss Tooze. But a thorough search of Mr could have made the mark at

> After Mr Jones was found guilty of the murders at Newport Crown Court last April, Mr Justice Rougiers wrote to the Lord Chancellor's Department expressing his doubts about the convictions.

"I am bound to record that the verdict caused me some surprise," he wrote. "I found myself by the end of the trial thinking that if I were the tribunal of fact, despite many suspicious circumstances, should be conscious of signifi-

Queen's letters fetch £5,000

Mother and daughter: Megan and Cheryl Tooze

By Dalya Alberge

THREE letters written by the Queen when she was a young princess were sold yesterday for £5,000. The letters describe how she first met the Duke of Edniburgh, then a young ofege, Dartmouth, in 1939 when she was 13 and he was 18.

In one letter she wrote: "We had thought about getting married but couldn't and didn't do anything about it till after the South African visit partly because of going abroad and partly because I wasn't 21." She also talks of being chased by a photographer while out driving in Prince Philip's MG sports car.

The letters were sold by Clevedon Salerooms, near Bristol, to Annette Buckley from Yesterday's World, a street museum in Battle, West

Mrs Buckley, 54, who runs the museum near Battle Abbey, expressed delight at her purchase even though it had cost her twice as much as she intended to pay. Their upper estimate was £2,500. She said: "I felt I had to have

them, although I am not sure if I would have bid higher." The letters were addressed to the late Mrs Betty Shew, a former court correspondent, and were passed on to a relative who died recently. The sale proceeds will go to an unnamed religious charity.

Blair aide denies spite campaign against Tory MP

TONY BLAIR'S senior press aide strongly denied yesterday that he orchestrated a campaign of spite as political editor of the Daily Mirror to damage a Conservative back-

High Court that he was not involved in preparing or writing about an early day motion critical of Rupert Allason, MP for Torbay. He said that, at the time he is alleged to have been touting for signatures from Labour MPs in the members' lobby, he was deep in discussion with John Major's press secretary, Gus O'Donnell, high in one of the Palace of Westminster's towers. He said it would have been impossible for him to have been seen by the Labour MP George Galloway outside

the Commons tearoom. He was giving evidence on the third day of the action brought by Mr Allason against Mr Campbell, the Mirror Group and another journalist, Andy McSmith, for malicious falsehood. Mr Allason has asked for aggra-

vated damages. He claims that Mr Campbell, as departmental head, was responsible for the story that appeared in the Mirror in November 1992 suggesting that 50 MPs had challenged Mr Allason to hand over to Maxwell pensioners the £250,000 he had been reported

to have won in libel damages from the Mirror.

The Mirror Group strongly denies malicious falsehood, that any malice was involved in the publication of the story and that Mr Campbell was the prime mover behind a fabricated motion. Mr Campbell's in the witness box that he was the real author.

Charles Gray, QC, for the Mirror, complained at the end of the day's proceedings that he no longer knew "how things stand" with Mr Aliason's case. The judge, Sir Maurice Drake, instructed Mr Allason to think clearly overnight about what allegations he wanted to put to Mr Campbell. Earlier Mr Campbell said

that the first he knew about Mr Bradshaw's efforts was between 5pm and 6.30, when he was told the "bare bones". He telephoned David Banks, then the Editor of the Mirror. to inform him that a motion mentioning the newspaper was being tabled.

Mr Allason pressed the

point that Mr Campbell was involved in preparing the story because he admitted knowing about it and had been sufficiently concerned to discuss it with Mr Banks. "You stress the level of concern," Mr Campbell said. "It is a matter of routine to explain to the Editor anything related to the Mirror. I don't term 'knowing

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Probation chief cries foul over Cantona sentence

By RICHARD FORD

THE Chief Inspector of Probation has criticised the community service order imposed on Eric Cantona, the Manchester United footballer, for making him appear a hero. Graham Smith said that punishing the soccer star by allowing him to coach young-sters may have given the impression that such penal-

ties "let criminals off". He said that the orders were meant to be a burden and to involve a substantial infringement of liberty for the offender. Mr Smith, a former chief probation officer for inner London, added: "It is not an occasion for a defendant to receive additional approval or to further recreational and professional opportunities. It is certainly not

for turning people into Cantona was sentenced to two weeks' imprisonment for attacking a spectator at Crystal Palace's ground last year, but the jail sentence was replaced with the 120-hour

community service order. Greater Manchester Probation Service arranged for him



by service order

to coach 720 children after the judge said the footballer should be given work which made use of his skills and

helped young people. Mr Smith said in his annual report: "It appeared an enormously popular sentence; the youngsters themselves gained from it and both the community at large, plus sentencers, appeared delighted with the result." But he added: "The purpose of com-

is involuntary labour containing thoroughly unpleasant Mr Smith's comments an-

gered Greater Manchester Probation Service, whose officials are understood to have been complimented by the inspector on their handling of the case. Cedric Fullwood, chief pro-

bation officer of Greater Manchester, said last night: We take heart from the assessments being made by the commentators at the moment, which speak of Mr Cantona's rehabilitation and exemplary behaviour. Mr Cantona was greatly chal-lenged by this order, which he successfully completed on time and with no suggestion of further offences."

Community service ha been imposed on a number of high-profile offenders. Roger Levitt, the businessman convicted of fraudulent trading, made cuddly toys: Jimmy White, the snooker player, cleaned elderly people's homes after being caught drink-driving; in the United States, the actor Martin Sheen washed dishes in soup kitchmunity service is quite clear; it ens for the poor.

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Race murder case fails after judge rules out evidence

AND LIN JENKINS

FRIDAY APRIL 26 104

A RARE private murder prosecution collapsed yesterday after the judge told the dead man's family that the evidence of an important witness was unsafe to be put before the

Family and friends of the murdered black teenager Stephen Lawrence, who have fought for three years to find the people responsible for his death, immediately criticised Mr Justice Curtis's ruling. Stephen's father, Neville Law-rence, said: "I believe in fairness and I don't think what has happened today is fair."

The jury at the Old Bailey was formally ordered to return not-guilty verdicts against three unemployed white men: Neil Acourt, 20. Luke Knight, 19, and Gary Dobson, 20, all from southeast London. They had denied being at the scene when Ste-phen was stabbed to death near a bus stop in Eltham on April 22, 1993.

The victim's family and friends claimed the ruling showed that black people could not get justice in Britain. They were critical of the original police investigation, claiming that local information should have been acted on sooner. Mr Lawrence, a builder, and his wife took out a private prosecution after the Crown Prosecution Service decided there was not enough evidence to bring to court.

Mr Justice Curtis ruled late on Wednesday that it was unsafe for the evidence of Dwayne Brooks, Stephen's best friend who witnessed the attack, to go before the jury.



Neville Lawrence and Stephen, his stabbed son



Mr Brooks had only glimpsed one of the attackers and could not recollect any of their faces.

The collapse of the case meant that the jury never saw a video, produced by police in a covert surveillance operation, which showed the defendants making abusive racial comments and playing with knives. After considering the position overnight, the family's barrister, Michael Mansfield, QC, announced yesterday that he would not be pursuing the case.

Mr Brooks emerged during

Parents' fight goes on

A THREE-YEAR fight for responsible for stabbing their justice by the parents of Stephen Lawrence will not end Swith yesterday's acquittals. Lawyers acting for Neville and Doreen Lawrence said that should any new evidence emerge linking someone to the would launch criminal pro-

There is no dispute that a gang of up to six youths were

son to death

demonstrations.

The Lawrences resisted attempts by left-wing minority groups to hijack the murder for their own causes. They relied instead on the support of the local community, black search for the killers. Their son's death did, however, be-

come the focus of anti-racist

still lives with the mental scars of his friend's death. He has been diagnosed as suffering from post-traumatic stress dis-order but has refused all offers

He admitted being driven by thoughts of revenge from the moment Stephen collapsed in front of him. He telephoned for an ambulance rather than the police because he did not trust them. He was interviewed at length by detectives before they accepted that they were dealing with a racist

Before he went to one identity parade he had worked out that he was expected to pick Neil Acourt. On a subsequent parade he picked Luke Knight and later admitted to a police officer that friends had told him to look for "the scruffiest one" because Mr Knight would have spent some time in the police cells.

He went on to change his

story four times about who he believed had wielded the knife that killed Stephen. Mr Justice Curtis ruled that Mr Brooks, for whatever reason. simply doesn't know if he is on his head or his heels" and that his evidence could lead to the danger of conviction on misidentification. "To do so would amount to injustice, and adding one injustice to another does not cure the injustice done to the Lawrence

Imran Khan, the Lawrence family solicitor, said later: "We are extremely disappointed with the judge's ruling and would have hoped the identification evidence could be put before the jury - something that happens in nearly every other case. It must be remembered that we would never have been in this position if the first police inquiry into the murder had gathered sufficient evidence.

A spokeswoman for the Crown Prosecution Service which dropped the original case in July 1993, said: "The result is clearly a disappointment for Mr and Mrs Lawine Cro take this opportunity to once again express our sympathy at their grief following the tragic death of Stephen."



Neil Acourt, left, and Gary Dobson leaving the Old Bailey after the collapse of the prosecution brought by Stephen Lawrence's parents

Spy film exposed suspects' hatred of blacks

By Lin Jenkins and Richard Duce

VIDEO surveillance by the police gave a chilling insight into the lives and thoughts of a gang of racist thugs, prime suspects in the Stephen Lawrence case.

In a rare move, detectives put a small box in a flat rented by Neil Acourt after the coroner stopped the inquest because of new evidence. The black box placed near the television was marked "Danger, do not touch".

Those in the flat thought it was a listening device. Indeed. Mr Acoust refused to use the telephone because he thought that was bugged. What the youths did not know was that the box contained a tiny camera that spied on them at intervals over 16 days. recording the extent of their deen-moted racism and sadistic loathing of the black

ly all their time together since leaving the local comprehensive school for the dole queue. All had grown up on the same council estate in Eltham. southeast London, and were known to the police.

Mr Acourt, Luke Knight, Gary Dobson and their friends expressed such extreme views that their own lawyers admitted that the recording showed, if nothing else, that they were the sort of people who could have murdered Stephen Lawrence for no better reason than because he was black.

Timothy Kendal, for Mr Knight, told the committal hearing at Belmarsh Magistrates' Court, where the video tape was shown last year: "One cannot help but have feelings of repulsion, of horror and of antipathy to those on the video."

Throughout the tape the men are seen smoking cannabis and handling knives. Mr Acourt stabs furniture and the Before leaving the flat he tucks a knife into his waistband. They watch football and criticise an "English"

presenter for supporting Cameroon against a European team. Mr Knight says: "English presenters saying 'Oh yeah, we want Cameroon to win this, why the f*** should he want niggers to win it when they're playing something - like Italy or something like a European former team." Mr Acourt says: "You rubber-lipped c***. I reckon

that every nigger should be

chopped up, mate, and left

with nothing but for

Mr Knight then recalls Enoch Powell and his visit to Africa. "He came back here saying they were uncivilised and all that and then they started coming over here and he knew, he knew straight away, he was saying 'No. 1 don't want them here, no niggers. They'll ruin the gaff, and he was right,

Mr Acourt concurs. "I wanna write him a letter. Enoch Powell mate, you are the greatest. You are the Don



Luke Knight leaving the court yesterday

of Dons. Get back into Parliament, mate."

They are shown shouting racist abuse at black people and a Chinese woman in a television advertisement. When discussing the Sports Personality of the Year award. Mr Acourt says: "Bollocks you nigger. A macaroon better not win it, mate."

They also talk about the

violence they wish to see meted out to blacks. David Norris, who was charged with murder but had the case dismissed by magistrates, says: "I'd go down Catford and places like that, I'd take one of them, skin the black c*** alive mate, torture him,

set him alight." Three of the five people originally alleged to have killed Stephen Lawrence had previously been acquitted of

attacks involving knives. Mr Acourt and Mr Norris were charged with the attempted murder of Stacev Benfield, a white woman, who was stabbed in the chest in March 1993 in Eltham. They were acquitted at the Old Bailey of a lesser charge after witnesses changed their

Magistrates also dismissed charges against Jamie Acourt. cleared at Snaresbrook wounding a white youth in the chest at a nightclub in Greenwich. He said he acted

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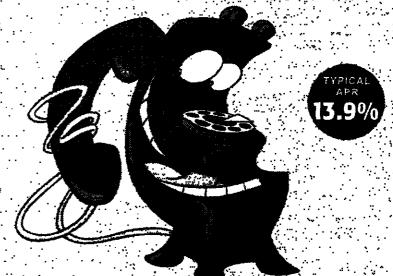
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Drivers could be turned away from city centres

government to introduce PLANS to give local councils schemes that electronically bill the power to limit the number vehicles driving in a congested of cars entering town and city area. However, the technology centres were unveiled yesterwill take at least five years to day by Sir George Young, the develop. Taxing company car Transport Secretary. spaces is also being discussed Transport. The Way Forbut has little support in ward, the Government's first

national transport policy paper for 20 years, discloses The paper says current forecasts of traffic growth "will that ministers are considering lead to increasingly severe legislation that would give pressures of congestion and on local authorities the right to the environment and ... will control traffic entering their not be sustainable indefiniteareas by issuing permits. The ly". The paper also proposes Green Paper says: "Drivers new transport planning powwishing to enter a designated ers for local government and sets an official target of douarea would need to be in possession of a permit which bling the use of bicycles by 2002. This would be achieved would be displayed at all times while the vehicle was in through a £2 million national programme of schemes to improve cycling facilities, tak-Local authorities could limit the number of permits issued or could levy heavy charges ing the needs of cyclists into for the permits to deter unnecaccount when planning roads

essary traffic. Another option

is legislation allowing local

By IAN MURRAY

TENANTS from housing estates

around the country met yesterday to

demand tougher laws to deal with the

day. Sir George said there had been a perceptible shift in public opinion in favour of protection of the environment and away from road-building. The paper was attacked by

green campaigners and the road lobby as an inadequate "wish list" that would do little or nothing to tackle Britain's transport problems.
The RAC said the 137-page

document was strong on analysis but "again delays action. on the real problems of underinvestment, congestion on the roads and genuine car dependence". The Council for the Protection of Rural England said any proposals "will be undermined by the conspicuous failure to take national action to tackle rising traffic levels". Labour criticised the document as "bland, contradictory and hopelessly short

The paper is thought to have

Tenants unite to demand action against teenage vandals

out on the streets. People are fed up

but are frightened to speak for fear of

having their windows smashed and

Mrs Salih said she had lived on the

same estate for 24 years and seen

their children beaten up.

been the victim of political interference from Mawhinney and Michael Heseltine, forcing Sir George to tone down or drop radical solutions. The publication comes 18 months after Dr Mawhinney, Sir George's predecessor, launched The Great Transport Debate, a series of public discussions on Britain's transport problems. Friends of the Earth said it

was ironic that, as Sir George was unveiling the Green Paper, a meeting of UK Roundtable for Sustainable Development, set up by John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, backed a plan to draw up a national sustainable transport strategy ... based on setting national tar-gets for reducing traffic growth over short and medium-term periods".

Leading article, page 21



Sir George: said there was a perceptible shift in public opinion away from road-building

measures against anti-social behav-

iour and more power for councils to

The tenants agreed to give evidence

to Lord Woolf, who is preparing a

report on ways to improve access to

enforce tenancy rules.

Doubt cast on PM's grammar school pledge

By DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MAJOR'S plan for a grammar school in every town was called into doubt yesterday by a champion of selective schools. Margaret Dewar. chairman of the National Grammar Schools Association, will tell its annual conference tomorrow of her "great scepticism" that the Prime Minister's scheme will

ever happen. Mrs Dewar questioned Mr Major's commitment to selective education because of the Government's reluctance to grant permission for the first purpose-built grammar school for 30 years.

Buckinghamshire County Council applied to the Education Department last May for permission to build a grammar school in Milton Keynes. which needs two new secondary schools to cater for rising numbers of pupils. It is still waiting for a decision from Gillian Shephard, the Secretary of State.

Mrs Dewar, who is a member of the Conservative-controlled county council, said: The Tory party's commitment to grammar schools is not looking good. If they are absolutely committed to more grammar schools they will make a decision about Milton Keynes tomorrow. It is an ideal chance to prove they mean what they are saying about a grammar school in

every town." The Times disclosed last month that Mr Major's policy unit was working on manifesto plans for a grammar school in every large town, to be established with the backing of groups of parents and business people. Also, Mrs Shephard said that a White Paper to be published in June would propose allowing

schools to select up to 100 per cent of their pupils rather than the present figure of 10 per

Mrs Dewar said: "The Milton Keynes situation makes you wonder how much there is behind the promises. The Government is in a position to show it means business. The Milton Keynes grammar school does not even need funding or a large company to help it because there is a basic need for a school which the council must build.

- ***

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"I am very sceptical. I wonder whether the Government means what it says about supporting grammar schools and an awful lot of parents want to know as well. "The Prime Minister makes a sweeping statement about a grammar school in every town but does nothing when he has

a real chance. It just seems to be another political football." Milton Keynes Borough Council, which is dominated by Labour and the Liberal Democrats, believes the new school should be comprehensive. It has been refused leave for judicial review of the county council's plan for a grammar school and its appeal against the refusal will be

heard later this month. A spokesman for the Department for Education and Employment said: "Ministers have agreed that no decision should be made on the proposal until the outcome on the leave to apply for judicial review was known."

Mrs Dewar dismissed this as a weak excuse, adding: "Who runs the country, Milton Keynes Borough Council or John Major?"

Letters, page 21

teenage hooligans they say are justice. They want him to consider setting up panels of specialist judges bringing lear and despair to their night there are young thugs hanging conditions deteriorate rapidly over a national petition of tenants calling around, vandalising, terrorising and the past five years. The vast majority for changes in court procedures to to deal with cases of bad neighbours of residents are good neighbours and deal with bad neighbours. A lobby of breaking into properties. The police At a conference in Coventry on and to protect witnesses by allowing Parliament will press for changes in law-abiding citizens, but we are arrest them and as soon as they get to "living in fear", delegates representcourt they are released and are back them to give evidence anonymously. being intimidated," she said. "My 15the Housing Bill, seeking tougher ing over a million tenants told how

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and improving cycle security. Launching the paper yester-

the perpetrators.

lives were being ruined by delinquent

teenage neighbours and called for

more support for victims rather than

Ann Salih, from Stoke-on-Trent,

one of the 200 to attend, said: "Every

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year-old son gets followed around the

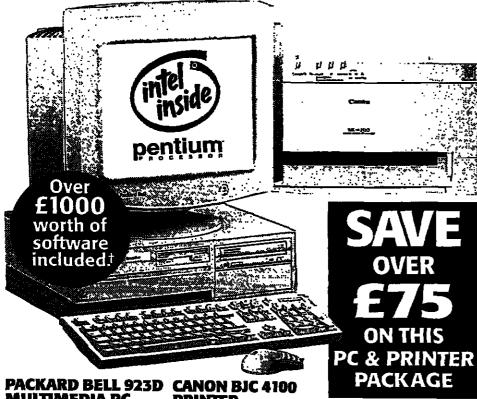
estate by these thugs because they

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ation and am not afraid to stand up

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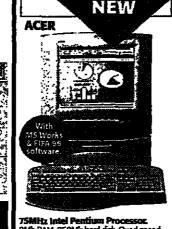
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second problem boy. A STRIKE by teachers was averted yesterday when the parents of a disruptive pupil withdrew him from class. Richard Wilding, 13, will stay on the roll at Glaisdale School in Bilborough. Nottingham. but will be taught at a special

cost of Eli,700 a year. The teaching union, NASUWT, said that industrial action was looming over a similar case on South Tyneside, after a head teacher's ban on a disruptive teenager had been overturned by an appeal panel.

Staff at Hebburn Comprehensive have voted in favour of action if they are ordered to teach the youth, but his parents have not yet exercised the right to reinstatement. Eddie

McAtominey, a governor, said the boy had twice attacked

Dispute looms over

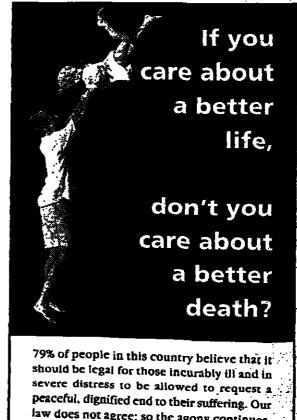
Nigel de Gruchy, general' secretary of the NASUWT, said the teachers at Nottingham had shown that parents could not choose the school their child's behaviour.

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It was disclosed yesterday, that Richard Wilding's mother Rita, 34, had been convicted of attacking a council housing officer who called to discuss repairs. Gerald Bunting, 55. suffered serious spinal injuries four years ago, and can walk only with the aid of crutches.

She was ordered to pay him £100 compensation. Mr Bunting retired from work this week.



law does not agree: so the agony continues. If you support voluntary euthanasia, the best

way to achieve a change in the law is to join the Voluntary Euthanasia Society. Do it today.

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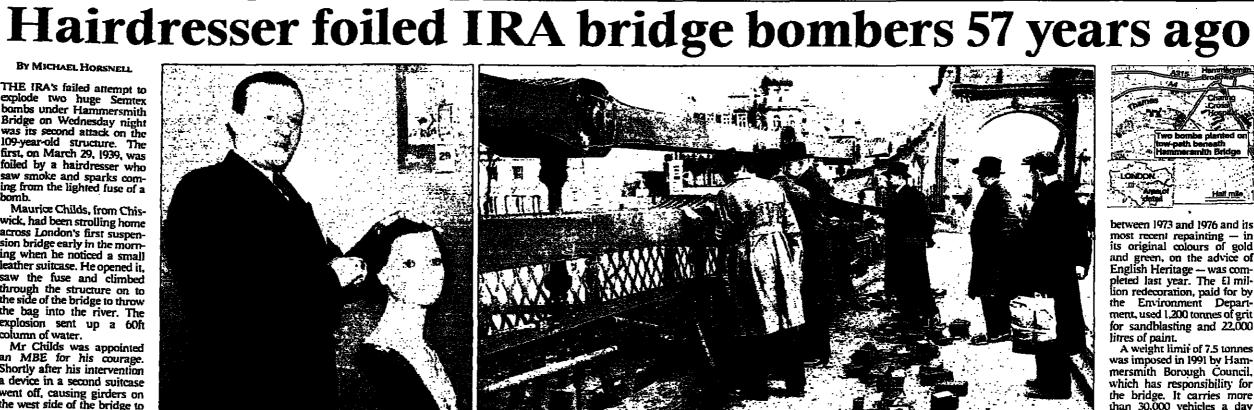
ES FRIDAY APRIL 26 1946

THE IRA's failed attempt to explode two huge Semtex bombs under Hammersmith Bridge on Wednesday night was its second attack on the 109-year-old structure. The first, on March 29, 1939, was foiled by a hairdresser who saw smoke and sparks com-ing from the lighted fuse of a

bomb. Maurice Childs, from Chiswick, had been strolling home across London's first suspension bridge early in the morn-ing when he noticed a small leather suitcase. He opened it, saw the fuse and climbed through the structure on to the side of the bridge to throw the bag into the river. The explosion sent up a 60ft column of water.

Mr Childs was appointed an MBE for his courage. Shortly after his intervention a device in a second suitcase went off causing girders on the west side of the bridge to collapse and shattering win-dows in houses several hundred yards away,

Engineers from London County Council found the suspension chains and stiffening girder of the upstream side of the bridge to have been seriously damaged. Police



Maurice Childs noticed the bomb in suitcase and threw it in the river. Right, London County Council engineers inspect the damage caused by a second explosion

were posted on all bridges across the river but the Boat Browne, both 22, were tried and convicted at the Old Race was allowed to pass Bailey in May that year. Connell was sentenced to 20 years for planting the bombs.

years for hijacking a car and driving Connell to the scene. The Hammersmith bridge was built by William Tierney Clarke between 1824 and 1827, but was replaced between

1883 and 1887 at a cost of accompanied by a guard of E88,964. The successor, designed by Bazalgette, was opened by Prince Albert Victor, Duke of

Royal West Sussex Regiment. As long ago as August 1908 fears were voiced about its

motorbuses and there were rumours that it was sagging in the centre, but several tests with spirit levels proved it to be in excellent condition. The deck girders were replaced

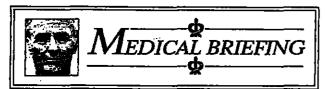


between 1973 and 1976 and its most recent repainting - in its original colours of gold and green, on the advice of English Heritage — was com-pleted last year. The El million redecoration, paid for by the Environment Department, used 1,200 tonnes of grit for sandblasting and 22,000

litres of paint.
A weight limit of 7.5 tonnes was imposed in 1991 by Hammersmith Borough Council, which has responsibility for the bridge. It carries more than 30,000 vehicles a day and is one of London's 23 river crossings.

The area around the bridge, which is a favoured vantage point for Boat Race spectators, attracts thousands of people to its riverside bars, restaurants and water-sports

Make beef a rare treat, doctors say



WHETHER a fondness for well-done steaks and barbecues could be a cause of ill health in cattle farmers, and possibly even hasten their was considered at a meeting of the American Association of Cancer Research.

The latest research, announced at the meeting by doctors from the US National Cancer Institute, compared the death rate from stomach cancer in those who liked their beefsteak red and rare to those who ate it well done. The scientists studied the way more than 600 American farmers cooked their beef and how often they ate it. Their research confirmed earlier work which showed that wellcooked steaks were more carcinogenic than rare steak. Research a few years ago demonstrated that the almost burnt but delicious bits from the bottom of the oven pan were particularly hazardons.

Farmers who had beef every day had twice the instance of stomach cancer than those who had it only once a week. It was suggested that the

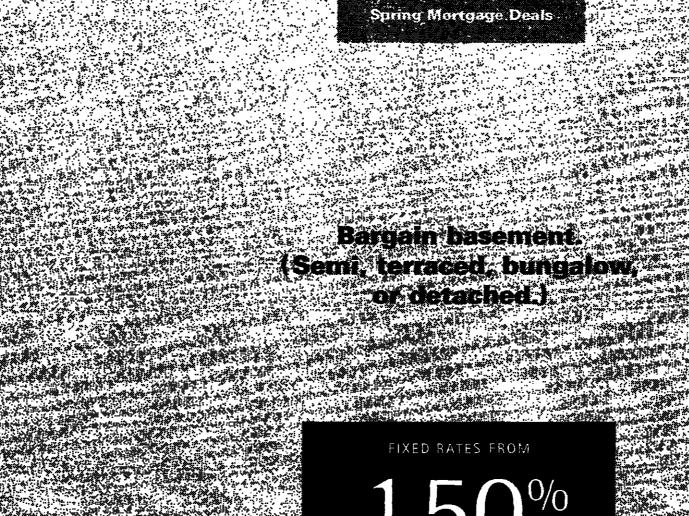
safest form of beef from the traditional roast, always provided, presumably, that the farmer didn't scavenge the bottom of the roasting pan for for gravy. Very well done beef - grilled, fried or burnt on a barbecue - seems to carry the greatest risk of cancer.

under Hammersmith Bridge

two days later.

This US research coincided with a scientific paper by Professor Tim Oliver, of St Bartholomew's and the Royal London Medical School, on the eating habits of men who Professor Oliver said that men who enjoyed liberal portions of animal fat, meat and dairy produce had an increased chance of developing cancer of the prostate, whereas those who ate large quantities of carrots and green vegetables had a lesser risk. Whatever the chosen diet, it was unwise to become overweight.

> DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD



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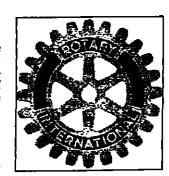
Male bastion falls in the capital but they're still fighting for equality on the beaches

Oldest Rotary Club in Britain votes to admit women

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

ANOTHER refuge of male supremacy has failen after an overwhelming vote by members of the Rotary Club of London to open its doors to women. Thousands of Rotarians throughout the country. who have long defied demands for such reform, are now expected to face growing pressure to follow the lead of the oldest and biggest of the 1,799 clubs in Britain.

At the third attempt in recent years, members of the London club, of which the Duke of Edinburgh is an honorary member, voted by 59 to 11 at a lunch at the Portman Hotel to end men-only membership. Neville Shulman, the theatrical figure and writer who led the move for reform. said after a heated debate earlier this week: "We would have been ignoring 50 per cent of the population by continuing to bar ladies and that would have been horrendous. It is unacceptable for women



not to have equal standing and I should not have continued my membership if the vote

The Rotary Club of London. which has 160 members, was formed in 1911 and was the first to be chartered outside North America. Only about a third of the clubs that comprise Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland have voted to accept women members and only 925 women are registered among a total membership of 62,965.

However, the stand taken by the London club may not

Natural habitat of life's eternal deputy

BY JON ASHWORTH

WIDOWS and orphans are typical beneficiaries of Rotary International, which now has more than I.I million members in 187 countries. Punctilious meetings and colourful raffles are meat and drink to the average Rotarian, who is more likely than not to be ageing and, quite possibly, your local shop-

We are generally regarded as middle-aged. middleclass do-gooders who are a bit fuddy-duddy," David of Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland, said. "Our average member

because No l is too busy. Accountants, greengrocers, opticians, headmasters, solicitors. We don't shout about what we do."

Rotary clubs typically comprise local businessmen and professionals, one from each trade, who meet once a week and raise money for worthy causes. Each club works autonomously, providing local services and raising funds. Rotarians in Britain and Ireland recently raised £8 million towards vaccinating Third World children. "We use our business expertise to help the community."



influence of Inner Wheel, but lead to the admission of men. The question of discrimination against men could be on the agenda when Inner Wheel stages its international convention in Berlin next year. Already some women are members of both organisations. June Dobson, secretary of the association, said: Some women are happy about Rotary opening its ranks to women. Others are not. That's life. We shall have to look at our membership rules now that Rotary is admitting the ladies."

Female membership of Ro tary became an issue in Britain and Ireland after a Supreme Court ruling in the United States in 1987 that Rotary Clubs broke anti-discrimination legislation by restricting membership to men. On this side of the Atlantic it was decided to allow individual clubs to invite whoever they chose as members.

Rotarians deny there has been any groundswell of pressure to admit women and maintain that the gradual movement for change has come from within as the influence of women in busiiess has grown.

Rotary International was founded in 1905 by Paul P. Harris, a Chicago lawyer, and dedicated to fellowship. charitable works, ethical standards in business and allmale company. The name was adopted because meetings were held in rotation in members' offices. Detractors have included George Bernard Shaw who, when asked where he thought the Rotary movement was heading, replied: "To lunch."



Self-proclaimed bastion of reactionary England: Frinton has no wine bars, ice-cream vendors or bingo halls

Seaside town defies tide of progress and rules bar is no place for a lady

A PROUD bastion of reactionary England has fought off another attempt to drag it into the late twentieth century. The men of Frinton-on-Sea have decided it is just not the sort of place where a woman can simply go out for a drink whenever she likes.

The genteel Essex resort has no pubs or wine bars. It has even managed to keep out other signs of commercialism such as bingo halls and icecream vendors. It does have War Memorial Club which, for 75 years, has been an all-male preserve where women are allowed only as guests on Saturday and Sunay evenings.

When one member dared to put forward a proposal to admit women at other times, was met with such overwhelming opposition that it was withdrawn even before the annual general meeting

The club president, Jack Watling, said yesterday: "I'm afraid Frinton is one of the last bastions of reactionary England. The member, who



They shall not pass: Jack Watling, club president, is adamant that women should not be admitted

wishes to remain anonymous, said he wasn't allowed out unless his wife went with him. "I can only assume that so many people leant on him unit he withdrew his proposition."

Mr Watling, an actor who has run a summer theatre in Frinton for 20 years, added: "I don't think women should be admitted, Most wives prefer a chap to go to his club because he can't get up to any mischief and she knows where he is. Even if we did allow them in. my wife said she would never go because she knows she would not really be welcome." Stan Shelton, 69, a member for 25 years, is one of a tiny minority who would like women to be allowed in more often. He said: "I proposed a few years ago to allow them in on Wednesdays and Fridays, but it was kicked out lock. stock and barrel. They were complaining that bar takings were slack on those evenings.

"The ones who oppose it most are old codgers like me.

tain the idea.

but they still wouldn't enter-

especially those who go lunchtime. They don't want their wives to see what they are drinking, hear them swearing and listen in on what they are

talking about." His wife Win, 76, added: "It is a war memorial club, but they seem to forget that women lost their lives and served in the wars too. It would be nice to go for a quick drink sometimes, rather than a coffee, while we are out shopping. The old boys want to go in there to get away from their missus, but there are some couples who would like to go in too."

For entertainment, the club has dominoes, darts, snooker, billiards, and shove ha penny. The club secretary, Ken North, declined to discuss the women's issue. He said: "It's a private club and members are not allowed to talk about what

goes on. It's against the rules." Frinton's unique old-fashioned nature is partly the result of the way that the seafront Greensward was presented to the town a hundred years ago, on condition that it was never marred by commercial vulgarities.

gets £22,600 for job bias

A Roman Catholic who suffered religious discrimination when he sought a job with the Northern Ireland Police Authority in 1990 has been awarded £22,600 compensation. Only Protestants were shortlisted for the post of armourer, the Fair Employment Tribunal was told. The unnamed Catholic, as wellqualified as three successful candidates, was deprived "because of his religious belief".

Queen in court

The Queen visited Maidenhead Magistrates' Court at the invitation of the Magistrates' Association and watched a series of mock trials featuring actors in the roles of the accused but real solicitors, magistrates and police.

Red kites killed

Poisoners have disrupted plans to restore the red kite to the country, the RSPB reported. At least four were poisoned in the South and the Midlands and a fifth death was being investigated. Last year 24 pairs of kites bred in England.

Press penalties

Northcliffe Newspapers and Graham Glenn, 49, a former editor of the Gloucester Citizen, were each fined £4,500 for breaching the Magistrates Courts Act of 1980 when reporting a court appearance by Fred West two years ago.

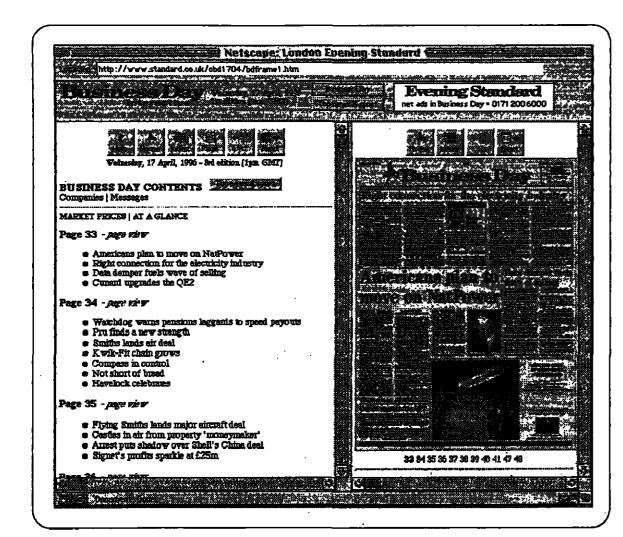
Hunt called off

The search for Christopher Howes, 36, a mine clearance expert from Bristol and his Cambodian translator, taken hostage by Khmer Rouge ren-egades in the northern province of Siem Reap four weeks ago, has been called off.

Rave cancelled

A May Bank Holiday dance music festival in Oxfordshire has been cancelled after protests over traffic congestion. Magistrates refused a licence for the rave at Otmoor Park after being told that last year's event caused eight-mile jams.

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Catholic 1011t ts £22,600

Bedfordshire has seen one

drum sativum, a native of the

Catholic gets £22,60 for job big Rather Catholic who

MES FRIDAY APRIL 26 19

Catholic who religious discrimes a sought a job est. I reland both in 1925 600 onne. Onto Protestant a te Fair the Laborat was told Catholic at Catholic at the part of Cathol FARMERS who once grew Brussels sprouts are turning to coriander as an alternative crop. Changing culinary fashions and a long-term decline in demand for what was once a staple vegetable are filling Catholic & English fields with the spicy and aromatic herb. was depring of the biggest booms in the growing of coriander, Corian-

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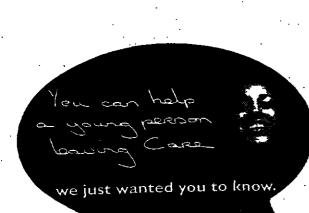
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* Farmers abandon Brussels sprouts for eastern promise

By Michael Hornsby, agriculture correspondent

Mediterranean and the Middle East. Asian entrepreneurs began the trend by leasing land from cash-strapped farmers to produce the herb for the large Asian communities in Luton and Bedford. Coriander has long been widely used as a flavouring in

Indian cooking. Steve Hatcher, of the East Bedfordshire branch of the sponse to the fashion for National Farmers' Union, oriental stir-fry cooking, par-

Coriander, one of the bitter

herbs eaten at Passover,

was said to have been used

by the Greek physician Hip-

pocrates (Nicole Veash

writes). The plant, whose

seeds were discovered in the

tombs of Egyptian pha-raohs, arrived in Britain

with the Romans, who used

it as an aromatic stimulant

and spice. In folk medicine

it was used to treat aches

and pains and Martin-

dale's Pharmacopoeia said

that in excess coriander

BITTER HERB OF THE PASSOVER

intensive crop to grow because it has to be picked by hand. It is not uncommon to see gangs of Asians out in the fields doing the work."

Other farmers have been drawn into growing coriander by the increasing demand for the fresh herb from supermarkets and restaurants in re-

diarrhoea. More recently

corlander was distilled to

form an oil recommended

as a cure for flatulence. In

China those who ate the

herb were thought to attain

immortality but this height-

ened feeling was perhaps a

result of the plant's mildly

narcotic properties. The

Romans used the seeds to

flavour bread. Nowadays

they are used to flavour gin,

liqueurs, frankfurter sau-

sages, chewing gum and

PHOTOGRAPH: ANTHONY BLAKE

cigarette tobacco.

David Gudgin, who runs 40 acres of market gardens at Shefford, Bedfordshire, began

Mr Gudgin grows enough coriander each year to fill valuable crop.

"We sell wholsesale to markets in Birmingham. Leicester and London and also supply about 30 local hotels and

ticularly of the Thai variety, encouraged by television chefs such as Delia Smith and Keith

growing coriander ten years ago and has seen a jump in demand in recent years. He said: "Fresh coriander is

very popular, with many people sprinkling it on top of food instead of something more traditionally English, like parsley. I know of at least 15 other farmers in the neighbourhood who are also growing it. Most farmers round here have stopped growing Brussels sprouts. People are just not eating them like they used to 10 to 15 years ago."

5,000 boxes containing 20 bunches each. He also grows leeks, cabbages, cauliflowers and broccoli but reckons that coriander is now his most

> are imported." Caroline Holmes, chairman of the Herb Society, said interest in more unusual you wanted the fresh leaf," she



Pat Coley harvests coriander in Shefford, Bedfordshire, where fields were once covered in Brussels sprouts

restaurants direct. We start drilling in March and round about now are moving into the peak harvesting period, which lasts through the summer. During the winter supplies

wider travel.

"Coriander seeds, which are mainly associated with Indian cooking, have been around for a long time but until five years or so ago you would probably have had to grow your own if

herbs had been greatly stimu-

lated by better education and

markets offer coriander growing in pots or packets of freshcut leaves. Other herbs used in Thai cooking, such as lemon grass and garlic chives, are

also becoming popular." Debra Pieri, of the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Information Bureau, said: "Coriander

said. "Now all the big super- has increased in popularity, particularly since last year and some people would say it is as popular as parsley. This is largely because of the increase in consumption of Indonesian and Eastern cookery." Pots of fresh coriander cost

herb retail at about 60p.

Sweet scallops give a taste of season's best

WEEKEND SHOPPING

have resulted in poor landings of fish and shortages of several species. Herrings and sprats are not available. The best alternative is Scottish kippers at about £1.20 a lb.

The seasonal best buy is fresh scallops, from about 60p each for small ones to £1.20 for those weighing 4-5oz. Scallops have a sweet creamy flesh and, because of their delicate texture, should be fried lightly in a little butter. Serve with spring onions, tomatoes and rocket for a delicious seasonal

son has begun. The first Jersey Royals are in the shops at £1.29 for 500g. By next week the price will be down to 99p. Announced promotions

Asda: fresh beef frying steak £4.38 a kg, fresh pork chops £4.38 a kg, strawberries 95p a lb, grilling mushrooms 59p a lb, spring greens 99p a kg, daffodils 29p a bunch. Budgens: unsmoked rindless

Dutch bacon rashers £1.99 for 400g, fresh chicken drumsticks £2.29 for 1.1kg, tomatoes 79p for six, soft white finger rolls 49p for six.

Co-op: fresh Aberdeen Angus rump steak £8.99 a kg, fresh whole medium chicken £3.49 for 1.6kg, grated mature ched-dar £1.15 for 250g, smoked salmon påté 79p for 113g, Onken Bio yoghurt 89p for

Harrods: selection of fresh crudités £1.49 for 250g, spicy chicken and mango baguettes

UNEXPECTED coastal winds £2.50 each, proscuitto alla brace charcoal-cooked Italian ham £1.49 for 100g, Perail de Brebis cheeses £3.50 each.

Iceland: lemon-butter chicken Kievs £1.49 for two, unsmoked back bacon £2.29 for 396g, prawn and broccoli lattice £1.99 for two, baby carrots 69p for 907g, McCain oven chips £1.99 for 1.8kg, sticky toffee cheesecake £1.49.

Marks & Spencer: canneloni for two E2.49, tagliatelle for one £1.49, pesto sauce £1.39, Tuscan olive oil £3.29, New ocket for a delicious seasonal alad. Zealand Cox's apples £1.49 for six, raspberries £1.49 for 125g.
The British new potato seaMorrisons: mackerel 79p a lb. fresh salmon steaks £2.29 a lb. spinach and ricotta cannelloni 89p for 350g, garlic bread twin pack 99p, light cottage cheese 65p for 227g, frozen hash

browns 89p for 750g. Safeway: rainbow trout £4.69 a kg. British crumbed ham 59p a 4 lb, New Zealand extra mature cheddar £2.19 a lb, potato salad 39p a 4lb, new potatoes 25p a lb, Packham pears 39p a lb, frozen strawberry and cream cheesecake £1.49.

Sainsbury's: fresh New Zealand bone-in lamb leg £5.49 a kg, 12 fresh chicken drumsticks £2.69 for 1.2kg, fresh plaice fillets £6.40 a kg. Parma ham £1.25 for 100g, Galia melon £1.49, whole cucumber 49p, golden delicious apples 89p a kg, dolcelatte cheese

£4.49 a kg. Somerfield: boncless loin pork chops £6.61 a kg, boneless shoulder of lamb £6.33 a kg, Scotch eggs 59p for two, asparagus tips £1.69 for 125g, red potatoes £2.38 for 5kg, oranges £1.35 for 1.5kg, rhubarb 64p a lb.

Tesco: lamb loin chops £9.69 a kg, cod fillet £i.95 a lb, whole lemon sole £2.79 a lb, rainbow trout £1.87 a lb, New Zealand half-shell mussels 39p a 4lb, broccoli 79p a lb, Jaffa oranges £1.19 for eight.

Waitrose: British roasting beef £5.99 a kg, fresh poussin £2.35 for 800g, skate wings £2.59 a lb, salmon en croute £2.49 for 400g, stringless beans 99p for 250g, Shrop-shire Blue cheese £2.49 a lb,

ROBIN YOUNG



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New supporters betray lack of faith in Labour

Blair: liked better

THE public has become more dubious about whether a Labour government would keep its promises and deliver improved living standards and welfare services, according to the latest MORI poll for The

The poll, undertaken last weekend, shows that, despite Labour's continuing high ratings, many of the party's newly won supporters are sceptical about its ability to deliver on its promises. The latest poll, and previous ones, suggests that these switchers to Labour are motivated more by dislike of the Government and liking for Tony Blair By Peter Riddell

personally than by enthusiasm for the party's policies. MORI asked eight questions about expectations for a Labour government which were previously asked in March 1995. Public confidence in Labour's ability to deliver

has declined over the 13 months for six of the eight measures, particularly improving living standards, keeping promises, improving welfare state services and cutting unemployment. Some of this could, paradoxically, reflect the Labour leadership's attempt to lower expectations. By contrast, Mr Blair has succeeded in reassuring middle-class voters about its intentions on tax and over the influence of trade unions on a Labour government. A net balance of 50 per cent of the public believes that Labour would, rather than would not, increase income tax. This is virtually unchanged on last year. But the net balance among the middle classes has declined from plus 62 to to plus 56 per cent.

The number expecting that a Labour government would be controlled by the unions, less than those expecting it would not, has declined from minus 19 to minus 21 per cent. but the drop among the middle classes is from minus 17 to minus 26 per cent. The most worrying point for

Mr Blair is that new Labour

switchers, who have started

improve living standards by a

net margin of plus 18 points,

backing the party since 1992, are more sceptical than party for the public as a whole, but comparing with a net balance supporters generally about of 36 points among Labour whether a Labour government supporters generally. These switchers believe would keep its promises and improve living standards. even more than other Labour While Labour supporters supporters than a future Govexpect that in government ernment would give a strong voice for Britain in Europe will, rather than will not,

and would not be controlled by the trade unions.

These switchers are among

the net balance is minus six

points. A net balance of half

the switchers believes that

Labour would increase in-

come tax, roughly the same as

the strongest admirers of Mr Blair's performance as leader, while % per cent of them are dissatisfied with the way the Government is running the country. This is higher than in any other group.

These poll findings under-

EXPECTATIONS OF LABOUR Q if a Labour government is elected after the next

general election, do you think it will or will not ...?

line that Labour's problem is the credibility of its policy pledges. Qualitative research about the attitudes of such switchers shows they are more dissatisfied with the Tories than committed to Labour.

The poll shows that the number of people mentioning

Europe as among the most important issues facing Britain has risen from 16 to 20 per cent, the highest level since last June. The number listing the NHS as an important issue has declined in recent months from about 40 per cent to 34 per cent, only just above education on 33 per cent. Unemployment remains top.

Net "WILL"

Q

April 1996

☐ MORI interviewed 1.947 adults on April 16 to 22. Voting intention figures exclude those who say they would not vote (10 per cent), are undecided (7 per cent) or who refuse to name a party (3 per cent)

MP seeks MPS 21 damages nore livore libel' livore

By James Landale POLITICAL REPORTER

BRIAN MAWHINNEY faces the prospect of legal action over allegations in a Conservative Central Office dossier. Solicitors for Tom Clarke, MP for Monklands West and a member of the Shadow Cabinet, demanded an apology yesterday from the Tory party chairman, substantial damages and costs for what they called "a gross libel".

They claim that Mr Clarke was falsely accused in a document called The Labour Party's Un-American Activities. issued by the Tories to coincide with Tony Blair's recent visit to the United States. The MP is said to have been falsely described as having been a member of "a secretive group-ing called The Supper Club" -a left-wing faction which was concerned about Neil Kinnock's leadership - and having been opposed to American and British intervention

in the Gulf War. Mr Clarke said The Mail on Sunday had apologised and paid damages in 1991 after similar allegations had been printed. He added: "I am leeply hurt and angered, parricularly as I have always had many friends and colleagues in the United States."

Tory officials said the matter was being examined.

Council boost for Lib Dems

THE Liberal Democrats This question was asked may do better in the local elections next Thursday than their recent national opinion poll ratings have suggested (Peter Riddell writes).

In their latest poll for The Times, MORI asked people how they would vote in the

➡he Labour leadership is in a

bother again about tax - not

about the details of its plans

(which are genuinely undecided) but

about how to handle the continuing

political fuss over the issue.

This is about the only area where

Conservative Central Office has

been able to put much pressure on

Labour - and where the party's

delaying tactics appear unconvinc-

ing Labour leaders may even be

relieved that the latest MORI poll

shows no increase in the high

proportion who already expect that

a Labour government would raise

Tax has become the symbolic

issue for both the Tories and

Labour. Tory strategists believe that

only in the 44 per cent of the country with elections then.

Excluding those saying they were certain not to vote or don't know. 26 per cent support the Tories. 50 per cent back Labour and 21 per cent the Liberal Democrats. local elections on May 2. The figures are virtually the

their attacks on Labour's tax plans

increased public doubts about the

Opposition's fitness to govern in both 1987 and 1992. And they are

trying to do the same again. Labour

leaders, and particularly Gordon

Brown, has drawn the same lesson

and have been doing everything

possible to avoid giving ammuni-

This vacuum has given ample

opportunity for Central Office to

seize on even vague comments about

higher taxes by Labour front-

benchers or surveys of the views of

Labour MPs and candidates (as in

today's Tribune). The divisions are

mainly of detail and have been

magnified in importance by the

leadership's refusal to spell out

tion to the Tories on tax.

same for just those saying they are certain to vote. In these areas. 28 per cent say they would back the Tories if there was a general election tomorrow. 54 per cent support Labour and 17 per cent the Liberal Democrats. The same contrast has been true in previous local elections.

Brown must back tax reassurance with some substance RIDDELL

whether, and at what levels, higher rates might be paid.

ON POLITICS

The real differences between the parties on tax are small. As David ipsey argues in the new collection of essays. What Needs to Change (edited by Giles Radice and published vesterday), governments have an influence on levels of spending. and hence taxes, only at the margin: as, if not more, important are the state of the economy and long-term demographic trends. After all, the Tories have found it hard even to contain the growth of the overall tax burden. The level might be slightly

Commemorating

110 years

of the tie

higher under Labour, but probably not much.

The better-off, who have done very well under the Tories, would probably pay more under Labour. But the top marginal rate, now 40 per cent, would almost certainly not rise to the 60 per cent level it was under the Tories until 1988, let alone to the pre-1979 peak of \$3 per cent. Labour wants to hold down the tax burden for those on average earnings and below.

But even if the Tory charges are grossly exaggerated, there are legitimate questions about Labour's broad spending and tax strategy. The Labour leadership believes it cannot win by being candid now. Mr Brown is right that it is absurd to expect Labour to spell out its precise tax plans now or in its draft manifesto in June when public borrowing figures are being revised upwards and the fiscal outlook will not be clear until after the November Budget.

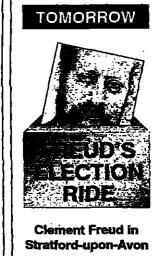
Labour does not think it can, or

should, copy Paddy Ashdown and announce "target taxes" for specific ends like nursery places and free eve and dental check-ups. That approach, Labour argues, may offer a distinctive, niche appeal for the Liberal Democrats, but it begs questions about overall spending and tax plans for a party seeking to be the next government. If Mr Brown did announce a new top rate of tax now, the Tories would then

press for other figures about tax plans and the process could not be controlled. The problems with detail have been shown in the criticism of his recent ideas about reallocating child benefit for 16 to 18 years olds.

The leadership believes that all Mr Brown can, and should do, is to restate the general principles of tax strategy. But this may not dampen speculation. The public is dissatis-fied with the Tories, but, as the latest poll shows, many voters have doubts about what Labour would do in office. Labour has no choice but to out some substance behind its general words of reassurance.

PETER RIDDELL



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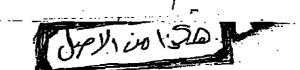
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MP seeks, damages over Tory 'libel'

MES FRIDAY APRIL 26 1996

BY JAMES LANDALE POLITICAL REPORTER BRIAN MAWHINNEY LO Series of legal aring Central Office done A sugarde Med all

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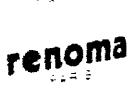
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'MPs are planning more trouble for divorce reforms

By JILL SHERMAN AND JAMES LANDALE

THE Government's controversial divorce reform laws look likely to run into more trouble next week with Labour joining Tory rebels in backing fresh amendments to the Bill.

Yesterday the John Major vowed to carry on with the legislation despite a rebellion by 165 Tory MPs that resulted in a humiliating defeat for the Government on Wednesday

After a meeting of the Cabinet yesterday morning, ministers agreed to press ahead with the final stages of the Family Law Bill. But several senior backbenchers privately suggested that the Bill be abandoned in the light of the unprecedented rebellion against a key plank of the government's reforms.

Labour has Tory rebel backing for a new amendment requiring couples to consider reconciliation before they go ahead with the divorce process. In effect the amendment would add a further two months to the "cooling off" period for divorce, which will be extended from 12 months to 18 months because of Wednesday night's revolt.

Paul Boateng, Labour's legal affairs spokesman, also served warning that his party would withdraw its support from the Bill at its third reading unless it was changed significantly. Although it is likely that Labour will abstain on the Bill, Mr Boateng did not rule out voting against, which would almost certainly

WHEN Lord Mackay quietly

announced his "modest little"

Family Law Bill last year, he

would attract. It was months before the seemingly nacontentions piece of legislation met the wrath of the moral majority.

First a few right-wing back-benchers tried and failed to

scupper it. Only when Baron-

ess Young the former leader of the House, turned her

formidable anger on the Lord Chancellor did prob-

lems loom. Baroness Young, a Tory, linked with Labour's

Baroness Hollis of Heigham

to embarrass Lord Mackay into his first U-turn over

pensions. Baroness Young nade it clear that no-fault divorce was anathema to

well-bred, middle-aged

But Lord Mackay made it

equally clear to peers that he

em keland (Entry to

moral majority

array but in angry exchanges in the Commons Mr Major accused him of being prepared to "dragoon" his own MPs to act againt their consciences for party political purposes. The Prime Minister strongly defended his decision to allow a free vote on matters of conscience in the Bill. "I gave my

word and have kept it," he Mr Blair capitalised on the Government's embarrassment by claiming that the Tory revolt by four Cabinet members and more than 30 middle-ranking ministers showed the humiliating state to which your authority has been reduced".

To Tory jeers, Mr Blair suggested the rebellion was further evidence of Tory splits and pressure within the party to move to the right. "It was fundamentally about the ethos of the Bill and fundamentally about the direction of the

Conservative Party." he said.
"Doesn't it show the advanced state of decay your Government is in that you now, on this messed-up measure, have to rely on Opposition support to carry it the House

Tory rebels earlier demonstrated that there would be no let-up in their battle to "save marriage". Edward Leigh, a former minister who is leading the rebellion against the reforms, insisted that there was a gut feeling in the party in favour of traditional moral values. "The vote sent a signal Tony Blair did his best to that the Conservative Party is exploit the Government's dis-returning to its roots," he said.

> take, according to his detractors, was ever to have allowed

his name to be so strongly

linked to the Bill. They caricatured him as a naive, stubborn man who had fallen

among legal activists from the Law Commission and the

politically correct, and was

pushing through a charter for marriage without

His Bill might have been tampered with but so far

Lord Mackay has retained

his beloved no-fault principle

and seems destined to confin-

Mr Leigh has tabled a similar motion to Labour's calling for a three-month process of reconciliation. Mr Leigh also called for

extra government resources for reconciliation. Legal aid, he said, should be available not only for mediation, as laid down in the Bill, but also for reconciliation. In addition judges should be allowed to take a spouse's conduct into account when determining the disposal of the couple's

There were lew signs yesterday that the Government was preparing to concede further ground. Lord Mackay of Clashlern, the Lord Chancellor, who introduced the Bill, is understood to be sympathetic to calls for reconciliation, provided it is not mandatory. But ministers said that the measures would be expensive and the Treasury is expected to oppose them.

A spokesman from Conservative Central Office accused Mr Blair of "sheer opportunism" and senior Tories later argued that the Labour leader had committed a grave tactical error by his comments, which prompted them to rally behind the Prime Minister.

Leading article, page 21



Lord Mackay yesterday, still determined to get the Family Law Bill through

Labour scheme for the Lords 'badly flawed'

By ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

LABOUR'S plans to reform the House of Lords are seriously flawed, according to a think-tank set up to examine the implementation of constitutional change.

The Constitution Unit says that Tony Blair's constitutional programme is too rushed and could consume virtually all the parliamentary time available for legislation in its first term.

The warning came as Derek Foster, the Shadow Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, gave details of "a radical programme of constitutional and democratic renewal" which a Labour government would introduce as a matter of urgency. He told a private conference of senior civil ser-vants, that Labour would introduce measures including a new Governance of Britain Act, a Freedom of Information quangos and an end to the market testing of public

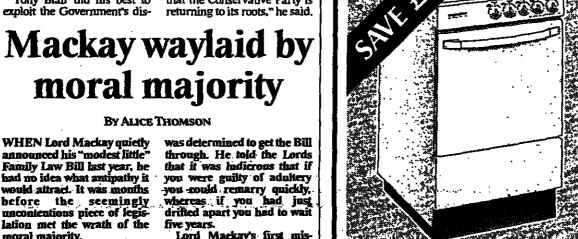
Mr Blair plans to end the voting rights of hereditary peers in the Second Chamber within six months of Labour

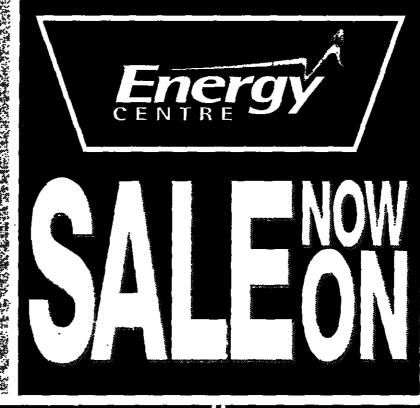
gaining power.
But the Constitution Unit, which is backed by a group of pro-reform academics and politicians, notes that previous controversial constitutional Bills, including the enactment of the Maastricht Treaty and failed attempts at Scottish devolution have taken up to 200 hours each on the floor of the Commons. In a typical session, the time available for government Bills is about 400 hours on the floor for a programme of about 60 Bills.

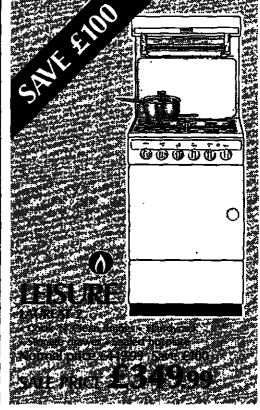
The unit, headed by Professor James Cornford, says that cutting the time required for constitutional bills would be fraught with controversy. It suggests instead a process of consensus-building about the role and powers of a second chamber. Mr Blair should convene a party leaders' conference to agree the broad principles if he wins the next general election.

There should be accord over whether hereditary peers are replaced with either nominated or elected members before a Bill is introduced. To counter charges that the new body would be a giant quango. the public could nominate candidates to become crossbench peers and the parties could be represented in proportion to their votes at the last election. Alternatively the party in government woud have a majority of one over the nearest opposition party.

The parties would also have to debate whether membership of the second chamber was a job or an honour, and whether it could provide a voice for the regions.







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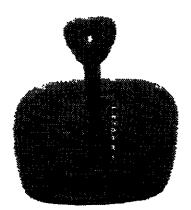
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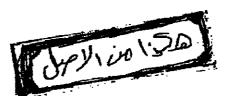


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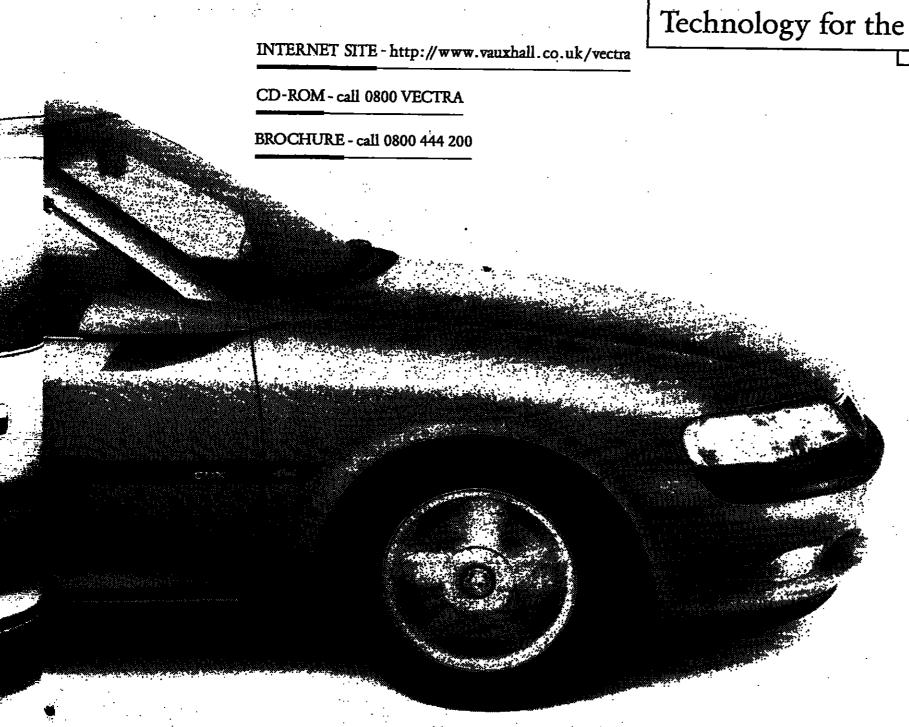


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Three young boys accused of beating month-old baby

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

A FOUR-week-old boy was critically ill yesterday after being beaten by three youngsters aged between six and eight who broke into the flat where he was lying in a cradle to steal a tricycle.

Ignacio Bermudez was on a life-support machine and in extremely critical condition with internal bleeding and compound skull fractures, according to doctors treating him at a children's hospital near San Francisco.

While doctors refused to say whether the baby was expected to recover, officials were deciding whether to bring charges of attempted murder against the three boys accused of carrying out the beating.

The crime, with grim echoes of the murder of two-year-old Jamie Bulger by two young boys on Merseyside, has appalled the police and residents alike in the so-called Iron Triangle district of Richmond, east of San Francisco Bay, a poor and mainly Hispanic neighbourhood already numb to routine street violence.

All three boys suspected of the beating were caught soon afterwards and are being held at the Contra Costa County Juvenile Hall. One, aged six, is the hall's youngest ever inmate. Known as a troublemaker, he had often been seen roaming the streets brandishing sticks, neighbours said. He is thought to have been the ringleader in the attack. The other two are twins, aged eight. Their identities have not been released.

The authorities had until yesterday afternoon to bring charges against the boys, although the county district attorney's office said that charges may not be filed because of the heavy burden of proof required under state law to prosecute children so

Ignacio, born into a hardworking family on Richmond's Chanslor Avenue, was apparently unattended when the boys struck. His parents had left the flat for 15 minutes to buy food, the police said, and his stepsister, 18, was in the bathroom.

The beating lasted about two minutes and left the baby lying silent and bruised on a bed where he was found by the stepsister, who raised the alarm. The boys took a tricycle belonging to one of the baby's siblings but were stopped by neighbours as they fled down a nearby street. The boys were taken by their mothers to

Richmond police station. Richmond has a reputation as a tough town, but I grew up here and this is not Richmond," Police Sergeant Michael Walter told the Los Angeles Times. "I've never seen any-thing like this in my life. This

is an anomaly." When questioned by police officers, the boys were unable to explain why they carried out the beating and apparently showed little remorse. They are being kept apart from other juvenile hall inmates, and are being given special tutoring and round-the-clock

While Ignacio's parents maintain a 24-hour vigil at his bedside, their neighbours have expressed shock at the beating but not at the fact that the boys were able to enter the Bermudez home. Despite high crime rates, the Iron Triangle is known for its strong sense of solidarity between neigh-bours, who often leave their

front doors open. "Nobody can explain it." the accused boys' headmaster said after telling colleagues that three of their pupils were in custody for the beating. "Maybe those children don't know the difference between right and wrong."

Defending Richmond's reputation, Sergeant Walter pointed out that in a working class city of 85,000 people there were "only" 27 murders

Jackie's ring sold to baked bean boss

FROM QUENTIN LETTS

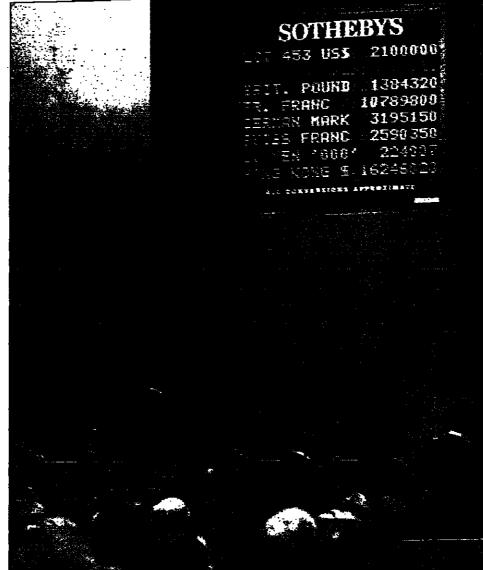
NEW YORK, still in the grip of Jackie O fever, was yesterday transfixed by the possibility that the mystery buyer of the Lesotho III diamond was Tony O'Reilly, the Irish millionaire.

The successful bidder for the diamond, which went for an eye-popping \$2.6 million (£1.75 million), was represented in the auction house on Wednesday night by his friends Al and Felice Lippert. The ring was given to Jacqueline Kennedy by her second husband, Aristotle Onassis, as an engagement present. Mr O'Reilly is chairman of

H.J. Heinz and a major shareholder in the Independent newspaper. He used to play rugby for Ireland and has a famously beautiful wife, Chrissy, who is Greek.

Mr Lippert, a founder of Weight Watchers which was bought by H. J. Heinz several years ago, disclosed that he himself was "emotional and tense" during the auction.

At Sotheby's, meanwhile, the heavy bidding continued yesterday with a string of fake pearls selling for more than \$200,000. Their estimated value was \$500, but that had not taken into account the fact that they were worn by Mrs Kennedy in the charming 1962 photograph of her holding little Jon-Jon. The child played with the "pearls" while



The bidding for Jackie Onassis's ring passes the \$2 million mark at Sotheby's

French grammar book, filled

with the schoolgirl doodles of

the young Jackie Bouvier,

his mother threw back her head with joy. It was a picture of domestic innocence before an assassin's bullet destroyed the myth of Camelot, an image imprinted on the American psyche.

Other apparently mundane items sold for a fortune. A

fetched \$42,500. An enamel cigarette lighter, which Sotheby's expected to raise \$300,

The Lesotho diamond was

in 1967 by a South African digger and was sold to Aristotle Onassis by the New York jeweller Harry Winston. The Kennedy children, Car-

discovered one May morning

oline and John Jnr, have still not been spotted at the auction, which ends today.

González charge is rejected

linking Felipe González. Spain's outgoing Prime Minister, to death squads that allegedly murdered Basque separatists in the 1980s, court sources said. They said the court was likely soon to issue a writ rejecting complaints filed

Hostage-taker shot at school

Teslic, Bosnia: Police snipers shot dead a Bosnian Serb 🍎 jailbreaker who took 22 teenagers hostage at gunpoint in school at Teslic in Serb-held north Bosnia. The pupils were held for eight hours while their captor demanded £420,000 and a car to escape to Muslim territory. (Reuter)

THE REAL PRINCES

A FILTER

Car blazes force recall of 8m US Fords

By QUENTIN LETTS

MORE than eight million Fords are to be recalled in the United States and Canada for repair to a faulty ignition switch which caused some vehicles to burst into flames. The mass recall, perhaps

the biggest, affects Americanmade vehicles and will cost the manufacturer \$970 million (E642 million). Ford said that the money would come from a contingency fund it has for "In a very small number of

vehicles, the ignition switch could experience an internal short circuit, creating the potential for overheating, smoke



ing column of the vehicle," a Ford spokesman said. Models included in the recall are Escorts made in America between 1988 and 1990, some early 1993 Mustangs, 1988-89 F-series pickups and Broncos. The Ford Probe, a model

sold in Britain, is not affected. A spokesman for Ford in Britain said last night: "It does not affect any vehicles in Britain."

All vehicles being recalled

were fitted with the same type conflagrations at traffic lights of ignition switch. Modern Ford ignitions do not have the The recall is a blow to Ford

but it became inevitable after news reports last week about the fire problems. An internal Ford memorandum noted that a third of the fires happened in cars that were parked, sometimes in garages underneath bedrooms. The potential for litigation seemed enormous, and Ford executives realised that they had no option but to

> The problem grew when the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, having noticed a series of bizarre

call the cars in for refitting.

and at private addresses, commented that it was "unusual for a car to catch fire when it was stopped. Consumers had reported 820 fires from the switches in the United States.

A typical victim was Ellen Page, of Toms River, New Jersey, whose Thunderbird self-ignited late one night. She and her family were sleeping over the garage but managed to escape injury after being awakened by an alarm. The car was wrecked.

Ford's action comes close to matching last year's record 8.8 million cars recalled by ten car manufacturers to fix faulty

Doubts over Libya attack

Washington: A Pentagon scientist has admitted any American plans to destroy a suspected chemical weapons plant in Libya would have to include using nuclear weap-ons (Tom Rhodes writes).

Harold Smith, an assistant to William Perry, the Defence Secretary, said military scientists were trying to devel op a conventional warhead able to penetrate underground sites, but only a B61 nuclear bomb had the capability. His remark was one of the first examples since the Cold War's end of a Pentagon official expressing Amercan nuclear intent.

Clinton lawyers fight to keep video off TV

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT CLINTON is rarely accused of being camera-shy, but his lawyers are battling to prevent his starring role in a video to be shot at the White House this weekend

from ever becoming public. Mr Clinton will spend up to eight hours on Sunday giving testimony for the Arkansas trial of his former Whitewater partners. The video of his performance will be flown to Little Rock and shown to the jury. The White House is naturally eager to keep pictures of the President testifying in a criminal case off the television news, but is alarmed by the prospect of his foes using clips in campaign commercials before November's presidential election.

We have been increasingly concerned (by) indications the Republicans are virtually salivating at the chance to politicise the tape," a spokesman said. The White House says that it is prepared to release a transcript, and might eventually allow the video to go to the National Archives, but nothing more.

Yeltsin seals pact Speace in China

Hong Kong: President Yeltsin concludes his three day visit to China today after a series of

Sukhoi jet fighters (Jonathan Mirsky writes). The two countries signed a 14-point "strategic partnership", and President Jiang Zemin spoke of living in conditions of friendship from generation to generation". Both leaders also attacked US "hegemony". But they made clear that

agreements and the transfer of

closer co-operation does not mean that the two countries will form an alliance. They are each using the other as a foil against America.

Chechen leader vows revenge

Moscow: Chechenia's new rebel leader promised to avenge the death of Dzhokhar Dudayev, and said he would press on with the drive for Chechen independence. Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev, at his first news conference in a secret location in Chechenia. added that there would be no peace talks with Moscow until it was clear who was responsi-ble for his predecessor's death. (Reuter)

Madrid: A supreme court investigator found no evidence against him and other high officials. (Reuter)







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THE TIMES FRIDAY APRIL 26 1996

'Security zone' is sticking point in Seals page Sticking Pulled US peace mission Hong Kong President US peace mission Hong Kong President US peace mission

UNDER the shadow of contin ued bombardments on both sides of Israel's troubled northern border. Warren Christopher's punishing shuttle peace mission was last night moving towards a critical phase. Reports said there were serious difficulties still remaining as Israel's blitz entered its fifteenth day.

As the American Secretary of State held further meetings in Damascus with President Assad, Arab sources said one of the main sticking points was the future of Israel's selfdeclared "security zone" in southern Lebanon.

Shortly before Mr Christopher was due to hold his second session of the day with Mr Assad, Israeli military commanders reported that their jets had struck in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley in Lebanon. The commanders said an arms dump. operated by the radical Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, with Syrian connivance, was hit. The dump was used to

FROM TOM RHODES

IN WASHINGTON

SHIMON PERES, during

his visit to Washington at the

weekend, is expected to ask

the Clinton Administration to

develop a new laser defence

system to protect Israel

against rockets fired from

south Lebanon by Hezbollah

Israeli officials are said to

be anxious to press for dev-elopment of the Nautilus tarti-cal high-energy laser, a

weapons project that has lan-

started to pursue its ill-fated

"Star Wars" programme in

First developed by TRW

Inc. an American defence

the Israeli defence portfolio,

will certainly discuss the miss-

ile system with William Perry.

DIPLOMACY

provide vital weapons supplies to the pro-Iranian Hezbollah fighters.

The Palestinian faction, led by Ahmed Jibril, has its headquarters in Damascus and is so close to the Syrian regime that its press office arranges for foreign journalists to interview Mr Jibril.

Despite the ferocity of Israel's Operation Grapes of Wrath and claims by senior Israeli officers that Hezbollah's capability had been badly hit, Katyusha rockets continued to fall on northern Israel yesterday. By nightfall, three Israeli soldiers had been lightly wounded in one explosion and a woman driver was hit in the neck by shrapnel

from another rocket attack. Earlier Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, came under strong pressure not to give any concession to end the fighting. Mr Peres, campaigning for next month's general elections, said of Mr Christo-

WEAPONS

the American Defence Secre-

tary, and is also likely to raise

the subject in meetings with

Two months ago, during a

President Clinton.

ing to the ground.

Peres seeks lasers

to smash rockets

anon Army (SLA). Hezbollah has vowed to continue its attacks on Israelis as long as its forces remain in the zone, established in 1985. Israel insists that holding on to the strip of land in southern Lebanon is vital to protect its towns and villages in the Galilee from rocket attacks. A senior Israeli source said: There is no way that we are going to abandon the SLA which has fought beside us in this operation. You have to remember that its commander is under a death sentence

handed down by the Govern-

State Department, said.

Mr Christopher, who was lampooned in the Israeli press

after his humiliation at the

hands of Mr Assad, who re-

fused to see him on Tuesday,

said: These are differences

that can be resolved only by

According to one official

close to the negotiations, the Arabs, supported by France

and Russia, are trying to use

the conflict to drive Israeli

troops out of its "security

zone", which they police along

with its mercenary South Leb-

the parties."

experiment at the White ment in Beirut." As the talks continued in Sands missile range in New Mexico, the US Army used Damascus last night, there was speculation that if Mr the laser to shoot down two Christopher failed to secure a Katyushas captured by the result in the next 48 hours. he Israelis. The laser, its beam might consider ending his caught on each missile for only seconds, melted the rockmarathon shuttle diplomacy. But Mr Burns said that Mr ets and brought them explod-Christopher had made no The Pentagon has included decision on how long he was no money for the Nautilus in prepared to stay in the area if its new defence budget. Howno agreement was reached ever, the Israelis have said "The Secretary is fo-SOOIL. that they will inject \$20 milcused on this half a day at a time," he told reporters from lion (£13 million) of their own

> deadlines right now.' Although Arab officials deplore the violence being inflicted on Lebanon, they believe Israel's image abroad is suffering badly as a result of television footage showing Israel's attacks on the civilian

"He is not setting any artificial



Yassir Arafat raises his hand in the vote to abandon a clause in the PLO charter calling for Israel's liquidation

abour ends opposition to Palestine

FROM ROSS DUNN IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S ruling Labour Party yesterday withdrew formal opposition to the creation of an independent Palestinian state, signalling a new turning point in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The decision followed an impassioned plea from Shi-mon Peres, the Prime Minister and party leader, who said peace was attainable by the turn of the century. The move came a day after the historic decision of the Palestine Liberation Organisation to strike out all references in its charter that call for the destruction of

The PLO was almost immediately rewarded for the decision when about 30.000 members of the Labour Party estinian relations," he said.

met in Tel Aviv yesterday and approved a new programme by an almost unanimous show

The Labour convention, to mark the official start of the campaign for the May 29 general elections, voted for a new document. A resolution removed a clause from the Labour programme for the 1992 election which ruled out the creation of an independent Palestinian state.

of hands.

ISRAEL

A delighted Mr Peres hailed the PLO decision as the "most important ideological change of the century" for Palestinians after they had formally ended the movement's longcherished support for an armed struggle. "It's a fundaAddressing his own sup-

orters in Tel Aviv yesterday, Mr Peres said: "Our goal is to bring a comprehensive peace to the Middle East during the next four years." That will be the term of the parliament to be elected next month. The PLO praised the Lab-

our decision and said it was now "just a matter of time" before the Palestinians had their own state. Nabil Amr, an adviser to Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian leader, said the move was the "first result of the flexible policy adopted by the PLO".

Despite this progress, unresolved issues still have the potential to unravel the peace process. Chief among these is the future of Jerusalem, which both Jews and Palestinians claim as a religious and political capital.

The Labour convention asserted that Jerusalem was the eternal capital of Israel, rejecting Palestinian demands that the eastern part be the capital of a Palestinian state. Delegates also supported moves to annex parts of the West Bank, where there are Jewish settlements. This is bound to anger the PLO, which says the whole of the West Bank should be handed over to Palestinians. ☐ Gaza: PLO security forces captured Adnan al-Ghoul, number two of the armed wing of Hamas, in Gaza in their pursuit of militants linked to suicide bombines in Israel. Muhammad al-Deif. the Hamas commander, re-

mains a fugitive. (Reuter)

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magazine looks at their life and times, highlights key moments

in the history of jazz and puts their work in context, giving

Iranians **'sending** arms into Lebanon'

By Michael Evans

IRAN has been sending regular shipments of arms to Hezbollah in Lebanon via Syria in the past few weeks. Western intelligence sources say.

EFENCE CORRESPONDENT

Arms deliveries, including Katyusha launchers and rockets, mines and explosives, have been arriving at Syrian civilian and military airfields before being transported by lorry through the Lebanese Bekaa Valley. One arms shipment was delivered by this route on April 14.

HEZBOLLAH

arms shipments have been disguised as humanitarian aid for Lebanon. Consignments are also believed to have been concealed in containers and delivered by ship through the Suez Canal. Turkey has served unwittingly as a land transit point for large quantities of weapons for Hezbollah. A consignment was found accidentally at a Syrian frontier post in January.

There were reports last year that the Iranian Revolutionary Guards had been pushing for a direct air link between Tehran and Beirut to bypass Damascus. However, the Lebanese Government had banned direct flights from Tehran because of the fear of arms smuggling.

Last month, an Iranian vessel was apprehended at Antwerp in Belgium with a concealed cargo of explosives. The vessel was bound for Germany where Tehran's intelligence services are known to have a European base. Iran continues to denv all

reports that it is funding and arming Hezbollah.

BRADFORD & BINGLEY'S REDUCED RATES OF INTEREST **EFFECTIVE FROM 28 APRIL 1996**

claim that it has clear advan-

tages over well-tested anti-

torch," said Alvin Schnurr,

the manager of the army laser

systems such as the

'It is like the world's

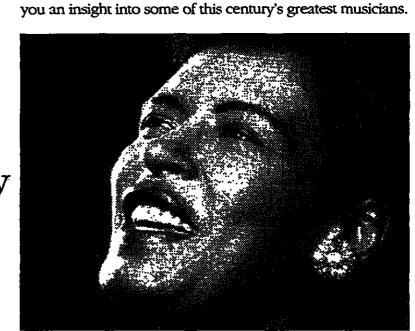
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Special Asset	£2_500+	3.10	2.48	3,00	2.40
apeua mee.	£5.000+	3.45	2.76	5.85	268
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	£20,000+	4.70	3.76 .	4.50	3.60
	£40,000+	5.00	4.00	4.80	5.84
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	£2,500+	3.40	2.72	3.25	2.60
Option 6	£70,000+	4.45	3.56	4.25	3.40
Annual	£30,000+	4.75	5.80	4.55	3.64
	£5,000+	5.25	4,20	5.05	4.04
Maturity Bond	£25,000+	5.75	4.60	5.55	4.44
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Peking's * grand designs

for colony

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG PLANS were unveiled yesterday to transform central Hong

Kong after the handover to

China, in a manner reminis-

cent of Albert Speer's design

for Berlin or the Maoist bru-

talism of Peking's Tiananmen

Raymond Wu and Nicky

Chan, two of the 150 Peking-

appointed members of the

Preparatory Committee which

is planning the government here after the transfer of

sovereignty next year, and Bosco Ho, a local architect,

unveiled the blueprint for the

490,000 square yard site, which will dominate central

The colony's official build-ings are presently widely scat-tered, while Peking has a

Under the plan, the east side

of a vast "cultural square" will

for the chief executive who

succeeds Chris Patten, the

Governor. It will be four times

the size of Government House,

where Mr Patten lives, which

is to be transformed into a

museum commemorating 150

years of colonial rule and the

Hong Kong's harbour side.

distinct government core.

Square.

Bosnia hit squads 'trained by Iran to hunt war suspects'

By Tom Rhodes in washington and Our Foreign Staff

IRANIAN-trained commando units are reported to have been sent by the Bosnian Government to kill or capture those branded war criminals by the fledgling Sarajevo state.

Four men and a woman, members of the Muslim-led Government's intelligence arm, the Bosnian Agency for Investigation and Documentation, were arrested this month near the Croatian port of Rijeka. The five Bosnians, according to The New York Times, were carrying grenades, assault rifles, rocketpropelled grenades and plastic explosives and have been ac-cused of trying to assassinate Fikret Abdic, the renegade Muslim leader.

Sarajevo considers him a traitor because of attacks he directed against government troops, the newspaper said. The capture of the five has left Western diplomats convinced that the Bosnian Government had given its approval to attacks on those considered war criminals. The most prominent of these, Ratko Mladic, the former Bosnian Serb commander, and Radovan Karadzic, his political counterpart, are both targets of the International War Crimes Tribunal, but have remained in seclusion since the end of the war.

The Bosnian hit squads are said to have been trained by the Iranian Ministry of Intelligence and Security, which Western intelligence agencies say has carried out assassina-

tions of Iranian dissidents in Europe and the Middle East. Iranian experts are thought to have recruited the units from the Bosnian government intelligence agency and to have sent several dozen people to Tehran for instruction.

The existence of an exclusively Muslim intelligence operation within the fragile Muslim-Croat alliance not only violates the terms of the Dayton peace agreement reached in Ohio last year, but also places more pressure on the Clinton Administration.

This week, Newt Gingrich, the Republican House Speaker, launched a special investigation into President Clinton's involvement in the Administration's tacit approval as long ago as 1994 of the smuggling of Iranian arms to Bosnia. At the time, the White House assured Congress and Ameri-

> He added, of Mr Gingrich's claims: "It did not give a foothold to Iranians in Bosnia because the Iranians were already there. The Administration ... is more than anxious to tell the story about how we conducted that diplomacy because it led to a very positive outcome."

☐ Bonn: Leaders of Bosnia's Muslim-Croat Federation agreed here yesterday to create a joint police force and set up a network of human rights monitors in a deal that they said increased the credibility of their alliance. (Reuter)

ca's allies that it was adhering

to the terms of a United

against former Yugoslavia.

Nations arms embargo

of virtually inviting Iran into

Europe could have disastrous

results for America," Mr

Gingrich said. "The President

undertook this reckless policy

hastily and then kept it secret

from Congress, the American

people and other European

The White House said it

would co-operate with the

congressional investigation.

although Mike McCurry, the

White House spokesman, questioned the cost of the

investigation. "Given that

there are so many committees

that the Republicans have

unleashed on this issue, per-

haps this will synchronise

some of those efforts and save

the taxpayer some money." he

President Clinton's policy



A father feeds his child yesterday in a hospital dealing with radiation-related illnesses in Minsk, Belorussia

New leaks mark Chernobyl anniversary

FROM LESIA RUDAKEVICH IN KIEV

ON THE eve of the tenth anniversary of the world's worst nuclear accident, small amounts of radiation leaked from Chernobyl's fourth

At the same nuclear power plant which exploded on April 26 1986, a careless change of filters, used to pump air inside the casing covering the crippled reactor, resulted in slight increases of radiation late on Wednesday night. But Oleg Goloskokov, a spokesman at the station, said that the matter was cleared up over-

night and posed no danger. The incident was another embarrassment for Ukraine. On Tuesday, radioactive dust and ash billowed into the sky as firefighters battled to contain three separate fires that engulfed abandoned towns. fields and forests in the exclusion zone around the plant. The most serious fire destroved the town of Toystiv Lis. on the outskirts of the Red Forest, a line of trees directly

west of the nuclear power

There were increases in radiation in the zone due to the fires," said Andriy Sukharuchkin, deputy chief engineer at the Pripyat radiation monitoring station just out-side the Chernobyl plant. "In the most serious cases, people who were fighting the fires were exposed to levels about 20 times higher than usual."

But Mr Šukharuchkin said the contamination was confined to the exclusion zone. "There shouldn't be any panic

The tenth anniversary of the diasater was also marked by the arrival of fresh humanitarian aid. The US Government flew in 80 tonnes of medicines to help Ukrainian children and other survivors. ☐ Miami: No country has

done more than Cuba to provide medical care for the victims of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, according to Ukrainian officials overseeing a children's treatment centre

in Kiev or anywhere else," he

1997 handover.

A new Legislative Council building, also four times the size of its predecessor which was built in 1901, will be erected on the north side of the square. Flanking the square will be government offices, a new City Hall, the court of final appeal, a huge cultural centre, and a garden. A long ceremonial avenue, 150 yards

will rise a statue symbolising the 1997 handover. Mr Chan said that an expert on feng shui, the traditional art of siting structures in harmony with natural surlife. Another claimed that the affair roundings, had declared that the plan "would be good for

wide, will run northwards

from the square. In the centre

Hong Kong people". The plan has been presented to the Hong Kong Govern-ment and to Qian Qichen, the Chinese Foreign Minister who 🏇 is also the Preparatory Com-

mittee chairman. Rules relaxed: Hong Kong announced yesterday an easing of rules for legal Chinese immigrants, in effect giving them right of abode from the moment of entry. (AFP)

Swiss envoy recalled in disgrace after succumbing to Balkan 'honey-trap'

By ADAM LEBOR

IT WAS a love affair that spanned the two Europes, from businesslike Berne to Balkan Bucharest. But the passion that ignited in the heat of a Romanian night ended in disgrace in the chilly corridors of the Swiss Foreign Ministry.

Jean-Pierre Ventovaglia, 49, was the Swiss Ambassador to Bucharest glamorous, rich and influential. Floriana Jucan was a svelte 21year-old journalist. They enjoyed fast cars, champagne and expensive

restaurants. "She was a well-known starlet among parliamentarians. She was always out with top officials," a Bucharest insider said. But Ms Jucan was not all she seemed according to officials in the Swiss Foreign Ministry. They believe that Mr Vettovaglia became

ensnared in a "honey-trap". an

operation in which women intelli-

information from them. The Swiss Foreign Ministry brought home its ambassador. claiming that Ms Jucan was a Romanian spy. "He was recalled because he represented a security risk, according to a report which we received from our secret services," a spokesman for the ministry said.

Both Romania's foreign and domestic intelligence services denied that Ms Jucan, who works for the popular Evenimentul Zilei, was one of their agents.

gence agents seduce men to extract Ms Jucan, who also writes poetry in her spare time, now plans to write a book about the affair. "All I can say is that I am not a secret agent, and that the ambassador and

I were truly in love," she said. Mihai Gheorghe, a friend of hers, claimed that the Swiss authorities removed Mr Vettovaglia from his post because of differences with the Swiss Foreign Ministry. The ambassador "was in permanent conflict with his superiors in Switzerland and they took advantage of this love affair to discharge

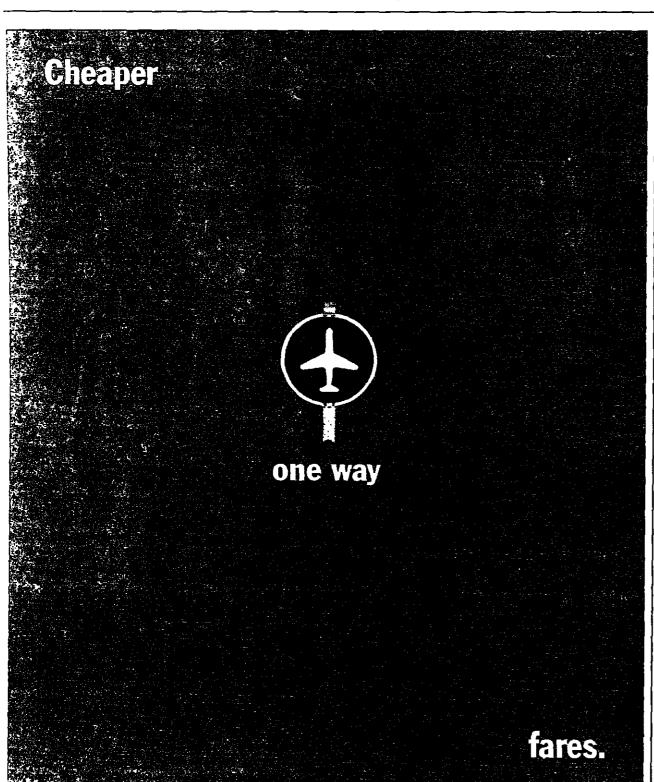
According to the Swiss media. Mr Vettovaglia is married and has children. The Romanian press. better known for the enthusiasm

with which it pursues a story than for accuracy, has had a field day with reports combining rumour. intrigue and intricate conspiracy theories.

The satirical magazine, Academia Catavencu. claimed that Ms Jucan was assigned to get information from Mr Vettovaglia on treasures allegedly deposited in Switzerland by the late dictator. Nicolae Ceausescu.

Some journalists have suggested that Ms Jucan simply seduced him to get a taste of the diplomatic highhad come to light when her Swiss lover became stuck in a lift on a visit to their love-nest, and had to be rescued Ion Criston, chief editor of

Evenimentul Zilei, said the paper had filed a suit against the Swiss Department of Foreign Affairs. charging that the allegations against Ms Jucan blackened the image of my paper". He said the paper was seeking symbolic dam-ages of one leu. There are about 4.680 lei to the pound.



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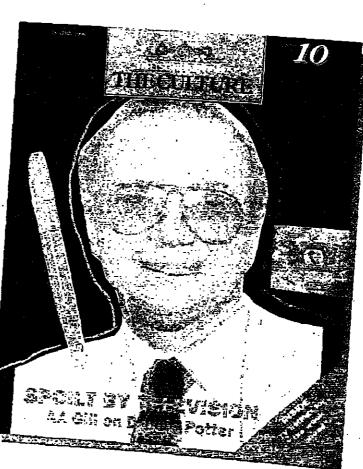
> New. Fast. Efficient. **Air myter** eunope



POTTER'S WEAL

6 I have watched the first two episodes and can say that if it had been written by anyone with a pulse, it would never have got as far as a pre-production drink in the Groucho. Karaoke is simply dreadful . . . 9

A A Gill on television's idolisation of Dennis Potter. The Culture, on Sunday





JEFFREY ARCHER

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THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS

100 (20)

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e just wanter

Catholi * ANC pays price for radical gestures as the rand slides

FROM R.W. JOHNSON IN JOHANNESBURG

THE collapse of the South African rand is turning into a sort of economic morality fable as the African National Congress-led Government is taught some fairly tough lessons by the money markets.

HMES FRIDAY APRILY

Queen in out

Red kites kil

Press penali

Hunt called

Rave cancel

for

lady

Yesterday the rand fell by nearly 5 per cent, to 6.70 rands to the pound, bringing the total fall in the currency's value in the past six weeks to more than 20 per cent and producing panicky government reactions as the conse quences for inflation and business confidence become

The weakness in the market began with President Mandela's announcement that he hopes to welcome President Castro of Cuba and Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, to South Africa. It was fed by rumours about President Mandela's health, and then increased with the unexpected resignation of Chris Liebenberg, the Finance Minister and a non-party banker, and his replacement by Trevor Manuel, an ANC activist with no real financial

Mr Manuel appeared to take the rand's fall as a slur on his competence and, with the currency then at four rands to the dollar, vowed angrily that speculators would "lose their shirts" and poured scorn on "this ephemeral thing called the market". The market, however, was deeply unimpressed and the currency fell to 4.12 rands to the dollar.

Mr Manuel, accompanied by Mr Liebenberg, then set off bankers and investors, but his mission was effectively undermined by the visit to Libya of Alfred Nzo, the Foreign Minister, who signed an accord supporting Libya over the Lockerbie bombing. The market reacted badly, not so much because of British and American anger over the matter, as from the larger impression of a Government that seems not to understand the international environment.



Liebenberg: resignation fed market's weakness

One American investor summed it up a few weeks ago when, at the height of a Hamas terror campaign in Israel, President Mandela said he would be happy to meet Hamas representatives. "A Government that does that sort of thing is flaky. It does not seem to know or care what international sensibilities are in either the political or economic field." By then, the currency was down to 4.25 to Wall Street to try to reassure rands to the dollar.

The trade union federation. Cosatu, then announced a general strike for next Tuesday against the employers' right to lock out strikers Despite the fact that the ANC had agreed on this provision in constitutional negotiations. the ANC then decided to support the strike. The rand plummeted to 4.38. Yesterday, President Mandela tried to calm nerves by suggesting, mysteriously, that the strike was really about blacks achieving parity with whites and that sensible investors knew that perfectly well. The rand continued to fall, howev-

er, closing at 4.48 last night. With the Mandela honeymoon now clearly over, commentators in South Africa have been alarmed to discover that the Government is maiadroit, indecisive and that, in almost every policy area, it tends to dither and drift.

Typically, policy changes are often denied a day or two after they are made and there seems to be no fixity or backbone in almost any area of government policy.

ANC officials sound bewildered by what is happening. sometimes inveighing against the market, sometimes suggesting that investors are merely racists.

The harsh truth is that the world's money markets move to a different beat. Painfully slowly, the Government is learning that all its gestures towards President Castro or the Libyan leader Gaddafi. its instinctive wish to be on the side of the unions, and even its angry rhetoric, have a price.



Veteran Pat Lee with a wartime helmet bearing a tribute to fallen comrades at the Anzac Day parade in Sydney

New Australian leader acts to save flag

FROM ROGER MAYNARD

THE Australian flag is to be enshrined in law, preventing any change without the consent of the people, John Howard, the

Prime Minister, said yesterday. The newly elected leader, who made the announcement on Anzac Day, said the move would protect the national symbol from politicians and special interest groups who tried to tamper with the design. The future of the distinctive

Jack in the top left-hand corner, had been at the centre of debate during Paul Keating's rule. The former Labor Prime Minister initially saw a change in the flag as part of Australia's progress towards a republic. He later separated the flag issue from the republican debate. after increasing support for the design.

Mr Howard, an avowed monarchist, made it clear during the election campaign that the design would not be altered without the consent of the people.

blue flag, with its six stars and the Union He could not have chosen a more appropriate date to secure the future of what he called "our great national symbol". Anzac Day brought thousands on to the streets to remember those who fought and died under the flag.

An amendment to the Flag Act will mean that it will be as difficult to change the flag as it is to alter the constitution. Kim Beazley, the Labor leader, said: "It's a crass political point to make."

Lizard of Oz bites head off snapper

FROM DAVID BENTLEY NORTH QUEENSLAND

PAUL KEATING'S style Has always been distinguished by a pithy command of street language. During his tveyear reign as Austratian Prime Minister, he triated many editors and advergaries

to colourful terms of abu o colourful terms of abut e. Clowns, barnyard bullies, stunned mullets, mangy maggots, pissants, dull rds, cheats, hinnies, dummies and scumbags are just a few; i the jibes to fall from his lips.

In his latest brush with the media, at this chic North Queensland resort, the defeated former Labor leads dubbed the Lizard of C by royalists after he broke with protocol and put his arm round the Queen - flew into a fury when Ray Cash, a photographer with Brisbane's The Courier-Mail, snapped him disembarking from a luxury catamaran. "Low-life grub," he told Mr Cash, jabbing his chest with his forefinger.

Mr Cash had been shooting sunsets when the vessel sailed into view. When Mr Keating stepped on to the gangplank Mr Cash quite naturally took a photograph.

Mr Keating later contacted

The Courier-Mail demanding that his picture not be pub lished. He must have assumed, mistakenly, that the hounds of the press were on his trail, pre-empting his carefully orchestrated exit from

Imran Khan announces the launch of his Justice

Imran opens his political innings

FROM ZAHID HUSSAIN IN LAHORE

IMRAN KHAN yesterday ended months of speculation as he launched the Justice Movement (Tehreek-e-insaaf). believed to be his first step towards forming a fully fledged political party. Until recently, he had denied that he had any political ambition.

The former Pakistan cricket captain said in Lahore: "The main objective of this movement is to strive for a change in the country by demanding justice, honesty and self-respect for the people."

Visibly nervous at his maiden press conference as a politician, Mr Khan made a passionate appeal to Paki-stanis to join him in the fight against corruption and injustice and in the creation of an equitable social system. "I have entered into politics because when the country is moving towards disaster no

one can sit on the sidelines." Mr Khan was vague and evasive on policy relating to the status of women and on the economy. It is also not

You can help

an abused child

clear who the other people are at the nucleus of the movement. In his prepared statement Mr Khan did not mention Islam, though in the past he was seen as ideologically close to some Islamic groups.

His announcement came just two weeks after a bomb destroyed part of his charitable cancer hospital. Mr Khan. 43, alleged that the blast was politically motivated. He said yesterday that his

decision to enter politics may endanger both his life and that of Jemima, his wife. "But I'm not afraid of death. I have faith in God." he told the press

Mr Khan said his wife was fully committed to his political struggle and would always stand by him. "But it is up to her to decide about her role in the movement," he declared.

The charismatic cricketer, popular among the urban middle classes, may provide Benazir Bhutto, the Prime Minister, with her most serious political rival to date.

Tokyo cult disciples 'killed to save souls'

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

A JAPANESE cult leader preached that murder committed at his bidding was a religious act liberating the souls of both victim and killer, a Tokyo court was told yesterday.

Shoko Asahara's teaching filled the heads of those of his disciples who carried out last year's nerve-gas attack on the city's underground, prosecutors said on the second day of a trial that has transfixed the attack, which killed 11 people and poisoned thousands, he praised followers who carried out the crime, welcoming them back with sweet rice cakes and juice, they added.

The prosecution statement quoted the guru as telling the disciples: Meditate. And chant ten thousand times the phrase, This is good, with the blessing of the guru, the great god Shiva [the Hindu god of creation and destruction and all the victors of truth'."

"If the guru orders the killing of someone it means it's time for that person to die," prosecutors quoted Mr Asahara, 4!, leader of Aum Shinrikyo (Supreme Truth

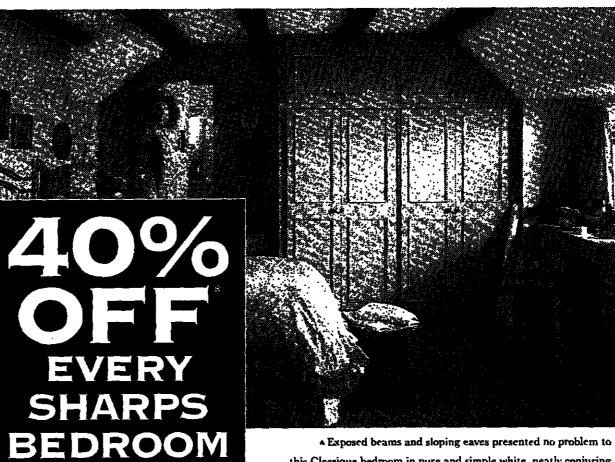
Sect) as saying. In the trial's first phase, which finished yesterday, the prosecution concentrated on Mr Asahara's role as the alleged instigator of mass murder, and two other alleged offences: the killing of an Auth follower, Kotaro Ochida, and the illegal pro-duction of a "truth serum", thiopental, and barbiturates.

The half-blind, bearded guru sat impassively as the court was told of the life anddeath power he wielded over cult members, forced to treat him as a "living incarnation of God".

He did not dirty his own hands with murder. When Ochida incurred his wrath by trying to rescue a woman from the Doomsday sect, he ordered another disciple to eliminate him. Prosecutors described how Ochida, a oharmacist at an Aum Shinrikyo hospital, was strangled in front of the guru in January 1994.

At first "saved" victims were dissident disciples or people opposed to the sect, but later Mr Asahara widened the teaching to justify indiscriminate slaughter.

Prosecutors believe they can show that Mr Asahara, facing 17 charges, was a mastermind who sent out lieutenants on deadly missions. He has refused to enter a plea and faces a death sentence if convicted of any of the murder charges.



this Classique bedroom in pure and simple white, neatly conjuring up storage space in this cosy farmhouse bedroom.

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How Irina's babies proved the KGB wrong

Mary Riddell on the joyful outcome to a dissident's nightmare

down from their chairs and were playing under the table when they sensed a rare crumb of interest in the drone of the years, she did not know dir ner guests' conversation. Sergei saved his question a fellow dissident, was alive.

until he and his brother, And even if he survived and Org, had their mother's full att.ntion. "Have you been in' arison, mum?" he asked.

!rina Ratushinskaya had honed to delay this inquisition. The boys, at four years oki, were still at the age having to study their Russi: n alphabet. But she tried. I had to answer them honestly, but I kept it as cheerful as possible. Tell

them sufficient, but not enough to give them night terrors."

"Yes, I was," she told her sons — children of the West, with their toys and their smart dothes. "Some evil people locked me

up, but they had to let me go." And she smiled reassuringly at them, grateful that she could omit so much.

One day they would know the truth. One day she would rehearse for them the moment when her head slammed into a wooden beam as her KGB torturers hurled her across a cell. The nights when mice crawled across her frozen face and the days of inscribing her forbidden poems, first on bars of soap and then on cigarette papers that might be smuggled from the concentration camp. And they would discover, too, aithough not from her, that they were never meant to be

When Irina was sentenced to seven years in a concentration camp, plus five more in exile for her poetry and her human rights activities, she knew she would die. "I was claustrophobic, and I believed

he twins had slid that I would die in the first days, just from being locked up." Instead she was to learn that death could seem the kinder option. For three whether her husband, Igor, she escaped, she knew her dream of a family would never be fulfilled. The guards told her that frequently, as she sat in her

"It was simply freezing there. Women must not be frozen to that degree, otherwise it makes it impossible to conceive." Exactly a decade ago, on the eve of the Reykjavik summit, Irina

ter her poems. 'I had five smuggled out of Russia, had alerted the West operations to her plight. Last week her to clear up fifth book was published. Her first novel, it is infections

an epic account of the progress of caused by three families the cold' through the First World War and the Bolshevik Revolution. It is also the book that paid for her sons'

> Adamant that she could countermand the assertion that she would never have children, Irina - still gravely ill with the heart and kidney problems induced by her captivity - began a three-year programme of fertility treatment. Refused NHS help, she decided her writing must pay the bills.

"I had five operations to clean up the damage from the inflammation and infections caused by the cold. I spent a fortune, but Igor and I were determined." She was 38 when her doctors confirmed that she was pregnant and the ecstasy ted until the day when. still breast-feeding her in-fant sons, she realised that she must settle her bills.

• The Odessans. Sceptre

Who wants to be alone?

ew reports chart a rise in the number of people who claim to be happy to live alone. But most are iust experts at concealment, says Candida Crewe

ONE of the many unbearable aspects of loneliness is that one must never show it. Loneliness lets off a little stench that other people don't want to smell. So it is that all the lonely people must do their utmost to keep their loneliness a secret. Just as fat people cover in voluminous black clothes what they have been led to believe is their offending flesh, so must lonely people cover themselves in brave smiles.

Young people, more and more of whom are living alone, have become quite the experts at concealment, to the extent that Mintel, the marketing research organisation, and the British Youth Council recently reported that "sad, lonely singles" no longer exist. In fact, they claim, "coupledom doesn't appear to be quite the cherished notion it was ten years ago". By the end of the century there will be eight million single households, compared with the 6.8 million recorded at the end of 1995. "Happy singles" far outnumber lonely sin-

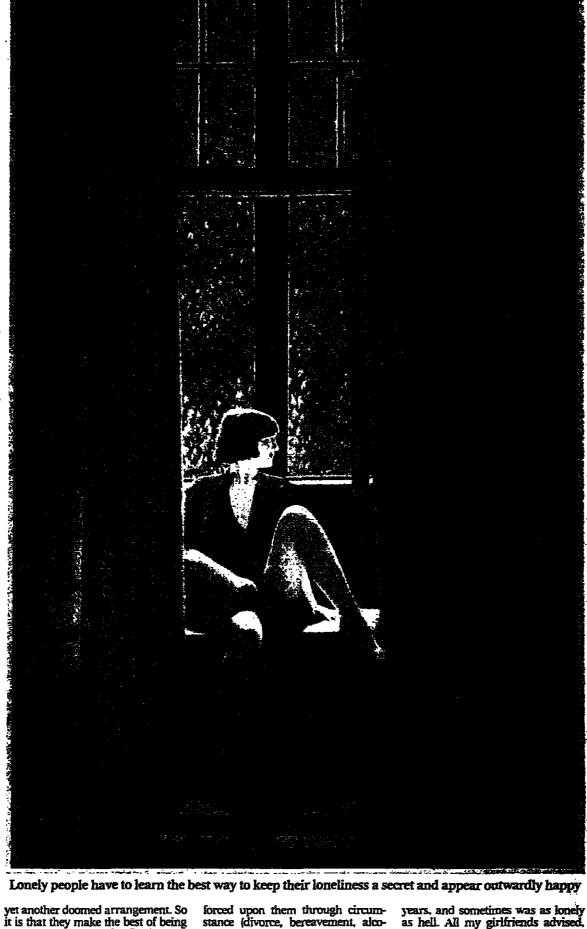
h yes? And where exactly are all these single people, then, who love themselves so much that they can eschew the company of a mate with all the confidence of a genuine hermit in a cave? Have you ever met one? And I don't mean those who say they love to be alone. Most lonely people have learnt the art of pretending that they do. I mean those - other than monks, nuns, solitary cave-dwellers and, at a push, Greta Garbo - who really love it. There are very few who mean it when they say they do. Very, very few. For the majority it's a case of protesting just a bit too much

when they extol the virtues of smoking in bed and eating peanut butter sandwiches at three in the morning without inviting critical comment.

The state of being on one's own divides into two categories. One is negative: loneliness. The other is positive: solitude.

But solitude is on the whole the luxury of one who is not spiritually alone. By that I mean, it is the luxury of those of a religious bent, the nun or monk, say, who, in silent contemplation, is confident that he or she has the love of God; or of those who can enjoy a few hours alone with a book, maybe, or in the garden, in the sure knowledge that they can go back inside anytime to the partner, spouse or family who loves them.

Loneliness is to be alone and aware that one's existence is devoid of another person's love. Some people who have difficulties forming and maintaining stable relationships reach the conclusion that to be alone is better than to become involved in



lonely, they put on the fixed smile, even begin to boast of the (let's face it, dubious) pleasures of staying in a dressing gown all day or sleeping around for kicks. In fact, they learn to cope to such an extent that people praise them for their independence. But were anyone to bother to look behind the defensive mask, they would be hard-pressed to find a "happy single" who wouldn't prefer a

good relationship to being alone. People don't choose loneliness. It is

what they perceive to be the inadequacies of their own personality ("I don't deserve to be loved by anyone, I don't deserve to be happy"). They learn the best ways of dealing with it, exploit the few - rather perverse advantages of being on their own for all they are worth, and delude themselves they are better off without the irritations of another person.

I know. I lived and worked, and was essentially on my own for ten

whatever happens don't show it or you'll give off the wrong vibes to men. So I learnt every trick in the book to get by. To all intents and purposes, except to my closest friends, I tried to play the part of one of these so-called "happy singles". I'm sure most people saw through it, but not all. One male friend even said: "Candida doesn't want anybody, she likes being on her own."

I didn't like being on my own. I'd just built up a (moderately) successful

to convince myself to such a degree that I worned about the prospect of anyone moving in with me. Their presence would disrupt all my specially devised habits and routines. But I learn later these were only ever there in the first place as a means of coping with loneliness. When some one, the right person, did come along.
all these carefully constructed habits. and routines became remarkable for their insignificance, and were discarded like litter.
One of the most important lessons

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my mother taught me was how to be alone and get the best out of it. But this she taught me for survival reasons, should the occasion arise. not because she thought I was voluntarily going to opt for a life on my own. Well, the occasion did arise, and arise, and arise, and arise, and I've brought to bear some thoughts on the matter in my new novel, Falling Away, because I think loneliness is a subject we tend not to dwell on, perhaps because of that stench it gives off. When people ask me what the book is about, and I say

> Loneliness lets off a little stench that other people don't want to smell'

loneliness, every one of them gives me a knowing look as if to say, "I've had a fair share of that myself".

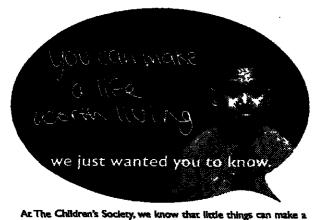
The truth is that man is a sociable animal, and not designed to be alone. But by 2000, 30 per cent of the UK population will form one person households. Why? Because of everincreasing divorce rates and longer life expectancy, believe me, not because of people "happily" choosing

to be single.

Of course some people choose to end a bad marriage or relationship knowing full well the alternative is for a period at least — to be alone. My mother always said it is better to be alone than lonely within a marriage, and with this I agree. But the number of people - especially women - who remain in absorve relationships even worse alternative to constant domestic violence, is testimony to how much stigms and fear we attach to loneliness.

This, of course, should not be the case. As circumstances dictate that more and more of us are ending up alone, we are going to have to learn that loneliness, while miserable, is not something of which to be ashamed. What lonely people need is company, not the added burden of having to appear merry when they are not. Perpetuating the myth of the "happy" single is not going to help them. They should be able happily to come out of the closet and say they are bloody miserable. And when they do so, they should be greeted not like rabid dogs, but with love and understanding.

• Palling Away, Century, £12.99, is published on May 2.



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time - take a few moments to reply to job applications, offer words of encouragement, or even just listen - they could help us make this country a better place, one child at a time.

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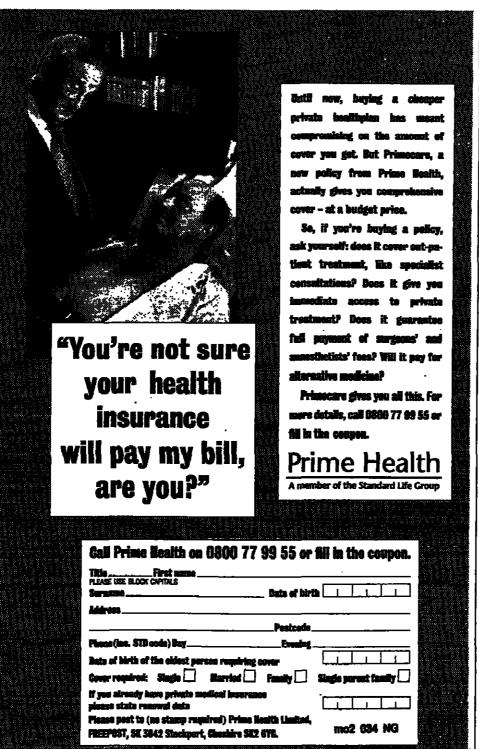
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f I were a woman," Martir Mears says, "you may ask, would I be president of the The track of the first place as a second with long to the first place as a second with long the Law Society? My answer would be yes. As you know, I have

seven children. But I would have gone to great efforts." I am visiting the Law Society's president, because last weekend he addressed the Women Lawyers' Conference and — surrounded by "the enemy" — boldly told them what he thought of their feminist initiatives. Women, he reminded them, were now doing extremely well in the law. The new chairman of the Law Commission, the head of the Crown Prosecution Service, the Law Society's secretary-gener-

al, all are women.

If Mr Mears had gone along with the orthodoxy he might have spouted about how women still face prejudice and have far to go as did David Penry-Davey, QC. Instead, deploying mocking irony ('always a mistake, among militants") he demonstrated that women did not need to demand special privileges, and that a women's conference subtitled "Changing the Culture" was unnecessary: the culture had so plainly changed. Having aimed some final barbs at "discrimination zealots who thrive on heresyhunting" and "whinge factories", he sat down to a frosty silence.

What Mr Mears said is incontrovertible. Only 70 years since the first woman barrister qualified. women lawyers have done several centuries' worth of catching up in seven decades - a matter for celebration. But the Hansard Society reports that women solicitors (now the majority entering the profession) remain less likely than men to become partners. The current orthodoxy is that they

Mr Mears challenges all orthodoxies. He is unpredictable, heretical, a maverick, a wild card, a "force of darkness" (Eileen Pembridge, his rival for the presidency). "A man with all the finesse and kindly sensitivity of a deafblind rhino" (Libby Purves). In fact he is a slight, jovial, red-faced man, who speaks forthrightly in the tones of South Wales (where he was brought up) and says: "My jokes are my undoing." The Law Society stands on

Chancery Lane. Lawyers, unlike foolish newspapermen, are too wily ever to let go of their priceless territory in the heart of London. Just round the corner is what Mr Mears calls The Mansion - his grace-and-favour residence, a white Georgian house with splendid staircase, marble chimneypieces, fine old panelling. Lucky him. Yes, it is very splendid, he says, sitting at a long dining-table, taking breakfast: "But I can tell you, you would not like living (His own --home, near

Last summer he carried off the presidency in the first contested

Beccles, is just as fine.)

The legal maverick who enjoys being a law unto himself

My jokes are my undoing, claims the controversial president of the Law Society

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INTERVIEW

election in 40 years, with 11,000 votes, ousting the obvious London candidate, Henry Hodge (8.000 Pembridge (3,000) - "yet I was a complete outsider". He galloped home on a

populist ticket to save the high street solicitor and challenge bureaucracy. "Arr, spike my

Mears says, affecting the Colmans Mustard burr that people expect of a rural backwoodsman. But no bumpkin he. At Oxford (Wadham) he was an exact contemporary of Melvyn Bragg — then a "Lucky Jim lookalike in horn-rimmed glasses who showed no sign of becoming a media star". Nor did Mr Mears; he played chess for Oxford, but never spoke at the Union. Once articled, Norfolk claimed him because the salary was tempting, and he wanted to run his own show. It affords him "a very good life".

uppose he had been born Margaret Mears: how would he have become president of the Law Society? I point out that women such as Barbara Mills and Mrs Justice Arden - with four and three children respectively - achieved their distinction by exceptional determination and rigorous org-

what any working woman has to do: I would employ nannies. That is an option not available to everyone, only to money - but these are women

with money. "I will only say this: women solicitors do not face deliberate illwill, prejudice or discrimination. Their problem, if

they are professionally ambitious, is in combining this with their families. In many cases this is their own

Bothersome women are but one item on Mr Mears's busy agenda. A larger one is raising conveyancing fees - not easy to sell to the public. How can firms charge a mere £140 for a transaction that should take several hours at £100 an hour? "The public demands irreconcilable things: a first-class professional job, but not at professional fees." I murmur that you can do your own conveyancing. "And your own brain surgery," he rejoins. "Have you seen the conveyancing textbook? Emmett on

Title is about 1,000 pages thick." Another concern is that the profession increases every year by several thousand young people newly out of law courses, with overdrafts and no jobs. "The orthodoxy here is, leave it to the free market. The Law Society is anisation. "Just a minute." says one of the few remaining bastions Mr Mears. If I had had to bring of Thatcherism, with a divine faith my children up myself I would do in the free market, never mind of Thatcherism, with a divine faith

how many dead bodies there may be along the way.

I am accused of protectionism.

when I say that a profession should have the right to control its numbers. They call me a King Canute." The failure of Thatcherism is a running theme of his speeches. "In the mid 80s I thought she was the saviour of the country," he says. Now he declares

that Thatcherism destroyed insti-tutions and respect for professions. As a man of many opinions, Mr Mears makes a hobby of writing for the newspapers; he had just delivered another blast at militant feminism to the Eastern Daily Press. He is also much written about, most memorably by The Mail on Sunday which revealed him to be a divorce now living with a woman whom he chooses not to marry. "It said, here is this man, divorced himself, setting himself up as a family values man -which I never did. All I said was that divorce should not be excessively easy, and that new reforms would make things worse.

hey interviewed my former wife and dug up the dirt. For God's sake, I've been separated nearly nine years, and they asked her what she thought of me. Well, what do you expect former wives to say?" (The former Mrs Mears, Austrian-born, said she was stuck in the sticks, "a bird in a cage", with their five children.)

He now shares his home with Susan Greenwood, a personal injuries solicitor, and their two young children. Why not marry? Once bitten ... he says. "I must say I can never understand anyone doing it twice.

"Do journalists reflect on why they are so unpopular?" he asks me. "I see today that some barrister has been outed for going to a gay sauna and had to resign his recordership. That is absolutely despicable. How can journalists atuitously ruin another person's life and then sleep at night?

However loathsome the journalist and the politician, the lawyer comes fairly close in the lists. Mr Mears was going to discuss, that day, an advertising campaign to improve the image of solicitors. "Richard Branson is quoted as saying, in America there are more lawyers than people"," he laughs. Lawyers are perennially unpopular."

Thatcherism deprived Martin Mears of his knighthood, previ-ously a perquisite for Law Society presidents. He is determined to stand for re-election (unprecedented) to the presidency this summer. Meanwhile he is in line for another prize. At a dinner tonight. Martin Mears will be one of the three contenders - the others are Cherie Blair and Sir Richard Scott for The Lawver magazine's "Legal Personality of the Year". Its



Martin Mears, who became president of the Law Society in the first contested election in 40 years

Pulling power of powder and paint

o much flapdoodle has been written about make-up that it is time for us to rescue the female face from the foundation-free bog into which some women would wish to thrust it. A made-up woman's face is a sight pleasing to all. Men always notice one, as do most women, most perky passersby, customers in shops, and appreciative colleagues at the office, so jaded by the sight of screen and paperwork. (1 speak here, of course, only of those women who know

make-up's measure, not of

Women wearing make-up are not oppressed, says Tunku Varadarajan, they are beautifully empowered and irresistibly ready to conquer

those who would coat themselves as if for some Nubian ritual: the "coaters" are barbarians, and enemies of female beauty.)

Yet make-up is more than just a basis of bloom. The candid truth is that there is power in powder. Elizabeth Hurley (the best-known woman in Britain after the Queen, the Princess of Wales, Pamela Anderson and Baron-

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ess Thatcher) revealed recently that she has never once was a leenager, without her makeup on. Purblind feminist observers, bien sûr, will raise their cacophony: "Imagine the oppression. She can't even leave home to buy a newspaper from the corner shop without her eye-shadow carefully set in place. Poor woman!" But these critics miss the point as surely as their faces must miss eye-

shadow. Clever woman. that Liz Hurley, is all I can say. She understands the allure of make-up in a man's world as well as its clout. Used astutely, it is the closest thing we have in our etio

lated urban jungle to warpaint. Make-up, far from consigning women to the role of wee little creatures, empowers them. Take bright red lipstick. The colour of blood, it provokes in man his most atavis-



Liz Hurley understands the allure of make-up

tic insecurities ... and a woman's words, spoken through this thread of scarlet, acquire a magnetic force that few men can resist. Her red-lipped beauty, as Saki put it, is sin deep.

But the make-up compact has been buffeted by a variety opposition through history, and it should be sobering to today's feminist tendencies that they had an early ally in Tertullian. This Christian father from the 3rd century – a severe sort of fogey who raged constantly about women and sex had this to say about make-up: "Against Him those women

sin who torment their skins with potions, stain their cheeks with rouge and extend the line of their eyes with black colouring. Doubtless they are dissatisfied with God's plastic skill. In their own persons they convict and centhe Artificer of all

Make-up, to paraphrase old Tertullian, is provocative. That is its strength. Not only is it a way for women "dissatisfied with God's plastic skill"

- and He does not always do a good job, to be honest — to look more alluring if they want to, it gives them a form of expression as powerful as words and sounds, a language in which no man can share. It is a language, however, for which all men should be thankful.

atch a woman at a table in a restaurant. She has eaten her dinner and her male friend is, quite correctly, paying the bill. As he finishes, she takes out her compact, dusts her face lightly with powder, refreshes the colour on her lios and inspects herself in her little "devil's looking glass". She then smiles, replacing her compact slowly into her purse. rake. Game, set and match to make-up.

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Hail Caesar! This was the unkindest week of all

fragment from The Hysterical Tragedy and Lamentable Comedy of the Assassination of the Tory Party, signed W.S., and recently authenticated by a German Shakespearean professor.

Trumpets, signature tunes of news programmes, portentous boings and pips. Enter Caesar Major and Tarzanus Senior, surrounded by a rabble of television crews, sound-booms, pollsters, spin-doctors, lead-er-writers, Senators and other conspirators, Caesar Major: Who is it in the press that

I hear a tongue ruder than all *Today*Cry "Majori" Speak. Major is not inconsiderably inclined to hear. Oh no. Soothsayer: Beware the Huns and Frogs. Major: What man is that?

Tarzanus: It is The Sun, and red is its He calleth on thee to make up thy mind. An Euro for thy thoughts.

Major: He is a dreamer. Let us leave him.

Th'extreme Plebeian view still has its day I'the Sun, but lasteth only for a day. It will be back before election time. My resolution's like the River Thames, Whose muddy current and compulsive

Sweeps daily on from Tilbury to Teddington But then ebbs back again — twice daily.

Those bastards live in cloud-cuckoo-terra If they imagine we can still survive As Little England on Europa's skirts. They are a tassel short of a full toga, A cohort short of a legion. On tother hand If our confederate allies in th' EU. "That bloody bunch of shits" in Caesar's

Refuse to take our beef. I'll do such things. What they are yet I know not, - but they

The terrors of the European Court. Rubens Lignum, A Conspirator: Now, gods, stand up for bastards. Major: And who on earth is that?
Tarzanus: Mark him well. Major. He would

have thy crown. He is the Redwood and he loves thee not. Nor Europe neither, so far as one can tell. Major: Let me have men about me that wear

Blear-eyed men and such as blink and

squint. Yond' Redwood has a pop-eyed, fanatic He plots too much: such men are dangerous.

Eques Aurifex, a Sestertius billionaire from Gaul and Mexico and a friend of Trimalchio: Hail Caesar! Referendum nobis omnia. Non tibi gloria: nil nisi referendum. Never mind the question. On with the

suffrages. Vote early and vote often and vote Non. Vivant all mercatores turned politicos! Who know which side sliced bread is

Caesar, your Senate's record in negotils With Europe is not strength but feebleness. You have slipped down the primrose path Towards the abhorrent bonfire of Brussels. Major: Veni, Vidi, Weedy. Not indecisively. O Aurifex, I do not rule out a referendum. But I would not rule it in either, For I have made our locus crystal clear. The Senate's decision on the referendum, Whether to rule it in or rule it out,

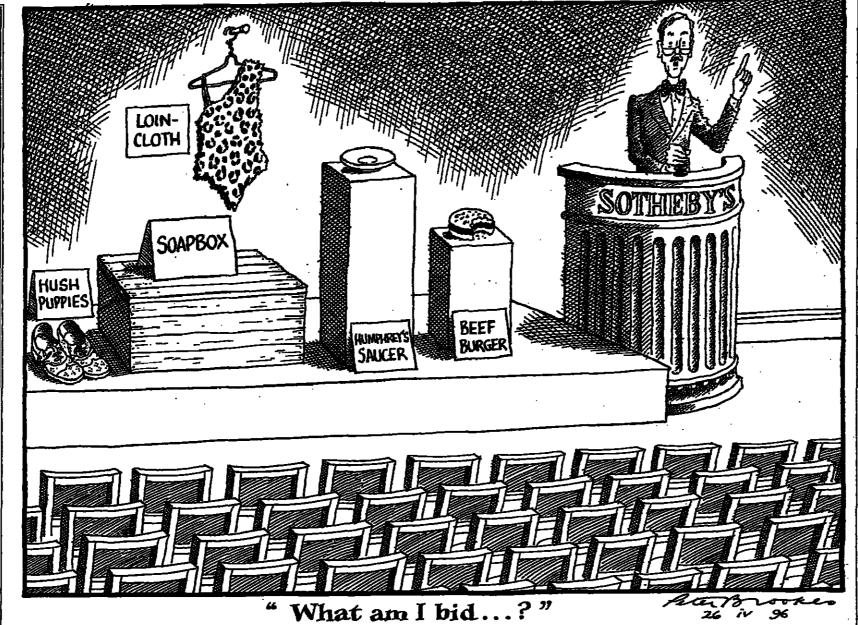
Will be taken at such a time and place Which hath yet to be ruled in or out. Oh yes. These are Caesar's no-nonsense

Or neither, as events may sometimes

Those who deliberately misunderstand them Incur great Caesar's wrath. At the very least, I shall be not inconsiderably vexed. Aurifex (aside to Redwood): Translate, precor.

I am a simple patriot from overseas. And do not understand your tongue of Question Time. He doth bestride our narrow world like

But I observe your Senators Of all parties, persuasions, races, ages, sex, Europhobes, Eurobores and EuroSeptics, Are the ugliest bunch that I have ever seen Including journalists. Be constant, Rubens, And I may win you Caesar's laurel crown.



Odd volumes of stuff

have never been a collector of books just for their covers and their dates of publication, much less for their bindings. As far as I am concerned, a book is something to read, and nothing else. Of course, I can and do admire a beautiful book as an object, as I would a picture or a jewel: I have had copies of my own 15 books beautifully bound, and I am not above running my fingertips over the lovely leather (tactile pleasures are just as worthy as the others). Moreover, I am a lifelong book sniffer - many an odd look I have had from many a bookseller.

But all of a sudden there came through my letter-box a booklet, handsomely put together, its beautful pages hungry for sniffing, carefully illustrated. and a pleasure to handle. This, I realised, was a bookseller's catalogue. but it was in the category of rare books - and rare they must be, when some of them are priced in thousands, and indeed one would set you back no less than £28,000 (credit cards not accepted).

But you must remember that I am not looking at these books for their contents. Or that was what I thought as I flipped the pages, but in only a few moments I found myself steeped in the most fascinating and recherche matter, from which I could hardly extricate myself, and did not want to.

The very first item that caught my eye and well it might — was labelled plainly "Lunacy", and the title reads: Observations on the Nature, Kinds, Causes and Preventions of Insanity, Lunacy or Madness. I assumed that it was some crude and meaningless item the date was 1782 — and the author. Thomas Arnold, meant nothing to me. But then I looked at the bookseller's

commentary.

One of the seminal works in the history of psychiatry. Arnold ran a private mad-house in Leicester, and from 1794 was head of the Leicester Lunatic Asylum . . . He made two main divisions . . . hallucin-atory and delusion insanity, with numerous subdivisions supported by case histories gathered from the literature and his own practice, some of which read like descriptions in modern textbooks . . .

Now who would think that such treasure trove was lurking in the calm recesses of Mr J.F.T. Rodgers's "100 Rare Books on 100 Different Subjects"? Not I. Nor did I think that I would have found myself in the middle of an argument between a leading astronomer and Voltaire, and even if I had, I

A catalogue of literary curiosities evokes forgotten ventures into the unknown

would not have imagined that Mr Rodgers would sign off so coolly referring to the astronomer — with "He was executed in 1793".

What about Edward Barlow with his Meteorological Essays, Concerning the Origin of Springs, Generation of Rain, and Production of Wind. With a Rational and Historical Account of the Causes and Course of the Tide: Its propagation thro' the Great Ocean? Charming, you would say, and so it is. But Mr Rodgers is so profligate with his knowledge that when he has finished with the wind and the rain, he tells us that Barlow "... had earlier achieved some fame as the in-

ventor of repeating clocks and watches". Then there was a one we know about. but the one who founded a new school of writing which was dominant for 150 years. That in itself

may seem uninteresting, but Casanova II changed entirely the style of legal documents, so that it was based on simplicity. (What I want to know is who changed it all back again?)

But some things don't change at all. In 1737 we could read an edict that ran: Abstracts of Several Laws and Rules That are now in Force, relating to the Importation of Wines into and out of Great Britain.

What astonished me most in my peeps into the past is the extraordinary number of ventures into the unknown. A German landed on Greenland in 1746 (and made fine engravings of birds of prey, whales, narwhals, as well as kayaks). From Hamburg to Iceland is not a great distance, nor, presumably, did Johann Anderson think it was when he landed. But what about those truly intrepid voyagers who went, in the 17th

century, too, and what befell them? What befell them was that they were captured and in time ransomed, but not before the sharp-eyed Emanual d'Aranda had made copious notes.

Of all 17th-century travellers, Aranda is without doubt the one who had with least sophistication depicted the misery of slavery in Algeria . . . one of the most interesting and dramatic voyages of the

But the next figure to leave a presumably comfortable home (in Mannheim) must have had a special pull, and indeed he had. He was a Jesuit, and his call took him to California, of all places. He lived for 16 years in the Mission, and left only when the Jesuits were driven out. Our bookman says: "Like most of the German Jesuits he found conditions in the Missions insufferable, and his book amply expresses this disenchantment." am beginning to think that our splendid Mr Rodgers is a cynic.

But he must be cynical about the next item. because it is almost certainly a fake. That the travels that are recounted are probably fraudulent, but as a story - and a story in 1670 — they can certainly delight in the Münchhausen-like

boasting, and the boasting is certainly powerful:

The Late Travels of S. Giacomo Baratti An Italian Gentleman, Into the remote Countries of The Abassins, or Ethiopia Interior ... An exact account of the Laws, Governments. Religion ... With many Observations which some may improve to the advantage and increase of Trade with them... Together with a Confirmation of this Relation drawn from the Writings of Damianus de Goes, and Jo. Scaliger. who agree with the Author in many

But there can be no mistake with the next story. First, it emphasises the extraordinary wanderlust that has over the centuries dragged so many men from their beds, to seek - to seek what? Not necessarily gold, and in the case of Captain Philip Beaver, certainly not. His title-page reads like this:

African Memoranda: relative to an attempt to establish a British Settlement on the Island of Buluma, on the Western Coast of Africa, in the year 1792, with a brief notice of the Neighbouring Tribes, Soil, Productions, and some observations on the Facility of Colonizing that part of Africa, with a view to Cultivation; and the Introduction of Letters and Religion to its Inhabitants: but more particularly as the means of gradually abolishing African Slavery.

In 1792? Yes indeed, if you have a captain like Beaver. For he said that the slave trade could be curtailed, if not ended, by the growing of sugar cane. To prove it, he bought the island from its king — King Niobana of Ghinala — and got started. (Our intrepid explorer paid for the island with a variety of goods, including an IS-gallon cask of brandy. five handkerchiefs and six hats.)

Nor did the voyagers stop there. William Bruton sailed to Bengal (or Beng alia as it was then called) in 1638, and the first thing he did was to describe the indigenes and their customs, "Also their detestable Religion, mad and foppish rites and Ceremonies, and wicked Sacrifices and impious Customes used in those parts". He too bartered successfully, this time for trading concessions, for which he paid "Twenty pounds of Cloves, Twenty pounds of Mace, Twenty pounds of Numegs, two bolts of amaske, one faire Looking-Glasse, one Fouling-piece, with two Locks, and one double Pistoll". (Ah, but that "faire

Looking-Glasse"!) I was on the verge of asking "But where were the pirates that these intrepid voyagers had to deal with?" when I turned the page and remembered that in those days the line between pirates and voyagers - and there were some famous names on the list - was very thin. What about this?

Bucariers of America: Or, a true Account of the Most Assaults committed of late years upon the Coast of The West Indies, by the Bucaniers of Jamaica and Tortuga both English and French

And all of a sudden there comes a new Dictionary -- but not a dictionary such as the OED. This one goes like this:

A New Dictionary of the Terms Ancient and Modern of the Canting Crew, in its several Tribes, of Gypsies, Beggars, Thieves. Cheats, Useful for all sorts of People (especially Foreigners to secure their Money and Engelished besides very Diverting and Entertaining being wholly New.

But I think we should finish as we started - that is to say, among the curiosities of the world, and particularly Mr Rodgers's generous supply of those curiosities, with this:

The Book of Feet. A History of Boots and Shoes, also Hints to Last Makers and Remedies for Corns. Yours for £180.

Three ages of marriage

HAILS CRIUM

Paul Barker on the dire effects of

divorce on children

bigail's party is over. Alisun Steadman and Mike Leigh have decided to splir up. "We have two wonderful sons we care for, we care for each other and we do intend to work together," she told the press on the Imperial War Museum set of her forthcoming BBC TV series about the Second World War. You might have thought that such a statement would end, appropriately, with the words and we intend to soldier on with our

marriage". But no.
To many people Alison Steadman, from her roles in her husband's films, epitomises the slightly dotty but devoted wife and mother, who smiles and carries on, even if (as in Life is Sweet) she finds that her husband only wants to run a part-time hamburger stall, and that, of her two daughters, one is interested only in being a female plumber and the other in making love while smeared all over with chocolate. Now she joins the divorce squadron, along with the Duke and Duchess of York, Will and Julia Carling, and all the other recent high-profile refugees from love and marriage.

There were mixed motives behind Tory MPs' rebellion against the Lord Chancellor's Family Law Bill this week. (A free vote was a heaven-sent chance to put a warning whoopee-cushion under the Prime Minister.) But a genuine anxiety about what is happening to the family was one of them. The anxieties are well-founded. Britain is the divorce capital of Western Europe.

The Government regularly chirrups that we have become the EU's enterprise centre, its Singapore or Taiwan. We have also become its Reno. Young children are increasingly caught up in the marital bust-ups. In 1993, accord-ing to Social Trends, 55,000 children under the age of five saw, heard and - most important - felt their parents' divorce. The figures are up by a quarter in ten years. Couples jack their marriages in ever earlier, children or no children.

et all the evidence shows that children would prefer their parents to stay together, even if they are throwing the kitchenware at each other, or going away overnight for mysterious business meetings. The Joseph Rowntree Research Foundation in York has published a series of studies which all show that family disruption is bad for children. They are "more likely to suffer health, educational and social problems", to quote from one of these. Admittedly, marital conflict is not good for children either. But marriage break-up is worse. The children describe themselves afterwards as "often unhappy" or "miserable". They find it hard to make friends. They imagine there is something wrong with them.

We seem to have become so passionate about divorce that the opposing evidence is often ignored. It is especially ignored by those who, in a twisted version of feminism, still maintain that lone parenthood is fine and dandy for the children, perhaps even superior to two parents.

On Monday, the Rowntree Foundation published its latest study. It kept track of a thousand young people. One of the main findings was that boys and girls who are still living with both biological parents" at the age of 15 are the least likely to start using drugs or to become unemployed. The girls are also least likely to become teenage mothers.

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The Daily Mail put these findings on page one, with the headline "Confirmed Divorce Damages Children". The Guardian tucked them away on page seven, under the headline "'Standard' Family No Key to Success". I have to report that the Mail was more accurate than The Guardian. Don't look now, your preconceptions are showing.

f course, the way we live, and especially the way women live. has shifted enormously. But this does not mean that child-rearing has to suffer. Dr Catherine Hakim, of the London School of Economics, has enraged some of her fellow sociologists by pointing this out in a taboo-breaking new book, Key Issues in Women's Work (Athlone, £35/14.95). As she says, all of the net increase in employment in Britain in the past half-century has come from female part-time work. (By contrast, in the 1980s alone, two million fulltime male jobs were lost.) But this still leaves women with a wide choice about how to arrange their, and their children's, lives.

Historically, we have gone through two phases of marriage. It is time to start on a third. For centuries marriage was, at bottom, an economic arrangement, organised largely for the benefit of the man. Would this woman (depending on your social level) wield a swift sickle, keep a close eye on the till or breed the necessary male heir for the estates? In the 20th century this model was overtaken in Western societies by the ideal of emotional partnership. The new holy trinity were Sigmund Freud, Alfred Kinsey and Simone de Beauvoir. Many parents began to feel that their own demands, their own gratifications, were as important as the children's. And as many a divorce case shows, some of them began to behave like infants themselves.

But it becomes more and more obvious that what matters most in a marriage is what it does for the next generation. To borrow from the sociobiologists, the essential third phase is to see marriage as a nest. Nothing matters as much as the children.

P·H·S | The author is a Senior Fellow of Institute of Community Studies. The author is a Senior Fellow of the

Red routed

NEW LABOUR has finally got rid of Edward "Red Ted" Knight, the former leader of Lambeth council who put the loony into Labour's loony Left. He has been ousted from the town hall where he once ruled the roost.

Until last week, he was still managing the Lambeth Social Club, a meeting place for trade unions and council staff in the town hall basement. But ten years after he was barred from office for refusing to set a rate in protest at cuts, the council's new Labour and Liberal Democrat coalition last week took the club to court and evicted it from the building.

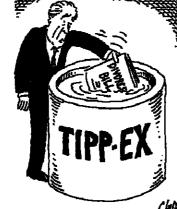
We had a review of the use of buildings and the club refused to pay any rent," explained the council, "so we went to court." One new Labour councillor added: "It's about cleansing the stables. We are clearing out the old hard Left."

The club's most hallowed corner was the "Red Room", decorated with a piece of the Red Flag that once flew from the town hall roof. "If they think I'm a political threat after ten years, they must be in trouble," says Ted. "I cannot think they would close down a whole social club of 1,700 members just to have a go at me."

 An edict has been issued by disciplinarians at Christ Church, Oxford, the college which has pro-duced more Prime Ministers than any other. Owing to "unusual levels" of drunkenness, junior members have been asked to restrict themselves to just two glasses of wine at supper. Senior members drinking is unaffected.

Tentative steps

TO THE Middle Eastern mixing pot of Israelis, Syrians and Kat-



yusha missiles add another fiery ingredient: Miss Lorne Williamson, director of the M&G Trenowath Marquee Company of Cambridge, For years, Miss Williamson's firm has hired out a tent to the Israeli Embassy in London for its Independence Day. This year, however, she was so disgusted by Israel's bombing of Lebanon that she decided it was time to pull out the tent pegs.

The images of the bombing of the United Nations compound and the displacement of so many Lebanese civilians cannot be ignored," thunders Miss Williamson in her letter to the Israeli Ambassador. Moshe Raviv. "I return deposit cheque," reads a snotty PS. The Embassy was left with just two working days to find marquee II. Peace or no peace, it seems unlikely Miss Williamson's services will be called upon next year.

Unaided

THE HOUSE of Lords has been hit by political correctness. A busty baroness recently put in a request to the Serjeant at Arms for a safety-pin to attach her House of Lords pass. The angle of her ample embonpoint made for difficulties with the usual chain-round-

the-neck method. To her astonishment, the request met with a frosty response. ched to provide a fitting tribute



The relevant memo from the Serjeant at Arms's office to Black Rod, General Sir Edward Jones, has fallen into my hands: "You may like to mention to the Pecress that under Health and Safety at Work Regulations, pins. needles etc. are no longer being issued to places of work because of the risk of transferring the Aids virus." The pins were grudgingly supplied, however, and the baroness proudly sports her pass as never before.

Final score

THE TENSION mounts as we wait to see if Geoff Hurst will be reunited with the football with which he scored a hat-trick in the 1966 World Cup final. But I have news of another football icon. A campaign has been launto Pickles, the dog that found the World Cup itself after it was swiped in 1966.

The campaign has powerful backers, including Sepp Biatter, general secretary of Fifa, according to Total Football magazine, which wants a gold bust of the hound installed at Wembley. The Labour MP Tony Banks, who yesterday in the Commons demanded a debate on the lost football, is more ambitious. "We should rename the World Cup the Pickles World Cup — perhaps sponsored by Branston."

 Richard Branson went rollerblading in Central Park this week before launching his Virgin store. It was a mistake - he lost control at speed and fell in a knotted heap after ploughing though some formal flowerbeds. "You've savaged the John Lennon Memorial Garden," cried dog-walkers as the bearded wonder struggled to his feet.

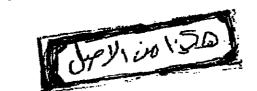
Loose ends

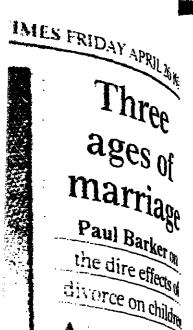
FIRST the Princess of Wales is shown to have cellulite; now I have grave news of Cindy Crawford. One of the world's most beautiful women, she looked quite magnificent at a West End party on Wednesday, but she could do with some hair conditioner - she



Cindy: catty colleagues

has quite a curtain of split-ends. Purring with satisfaction at the discovery on Wednesday night, when Cindy turned out to launch a West End fashion boutique, her catwalk colleagues spread the news. The supermodel ignored the gossip and praised the Prin-cess of Wales. "She hasn't got cellulite. It's a vicious rumour," she said. "In fact, she looks fantastic and I could take some advice





THEITIMES

PUNCH AND JUDY

Blair landed a blow on divorce, but the attack was unjust

As John Major and Tony Blair squared up to each other across the dispatch box yesterday, their row must have sounded familiar to any couple at war. There was irrationality, acrimony and misrepresentation in equal measures: all the unhappy ingredients, in fact, of the typical domestic argument that afflicts couples in the run-up to a divorce.

The irony may have been lost on the politicians. But to the general public, this must seem a rum affair. Four Cabinet ministers vote against a government Bill introduced by one of their most senior colleagues. The Government is defeated on one crucial amendment (though it wins the other). The Bill's second reading is secured only with opposition support: 165 Tories backed the rebel amendment. Does not this show, as the Leader of the Opposition claimed yesterday, that the Government is "in an advanced state of decay" and does it not show "the humiliating state to which [Mr Major's] authority has been reduced"?

Up to a point, Mr Blair. Ever since this Bill was announced in the Queen's Speech last autumn, the Prime Minister has made it clear that it would be subject to a free vote. Divorce is not a party political issue; it is a matter for personal conscience. Everybody has always known that the main hurdle for the legislation lay on the Tory side and that opposition support would be critical to its passage. The mistake that ministers made in the heated atmosphere of politics this week the was not to prepare better for Wednesday

night's result. Although the scale of the rebellion was larger than expected, the result could have been worse for Lord Mackay of Clashfern. Had the Tory rebels managed to reintroduce the notion of fault into divorce, the whole principle of the Bill would have been undermined. Instead they merely extended

from one year to 18 months the time necessary for a divorce to be won in cases where there are children under 16 or when one spouse applies for an extension. This is a sensible measure, giving notice to couples with children that divorce for them is a more serious matter. It does not in any way conflict with the central reform.

What the vote has done, though, is to expose the extent of the manoeuvring for position that is going on inside the Tory party. Can the rebellions of Stephen Dorrell and William Hague, both possible leadership contenders, have had anything to do with their wish to reassure the Right that they are "sound" on social issues? If John Major's position had been stronger, it has to be wondered whether the support for the amendments would have been quite so large.

Nonetheless, Mr Blair's treatment of the result yesterday was shamelessly misleading. He knows perfectly well that conscience votes - whether on a government or a Private Member's Bill - are matters for individual judgment. He did not make political capital out of differing Conservative votes on the proper age for homosexual consent or the time at which a foetus could

If Mr Blair proves himself as unprincipled when it comes to the Bill's third reading, he will deserve to be criticised again. Labour has served notice that its support cannot be taken for granted; and it may well try to find an excuse to defeat the Government in the summer. Given that virtually every Labour MP supports the principles of this Bill, a decent defence of such action would be tough. If Labour MPs really care about the family and about their constituents, they must not let the prospect of a cheap political victory obscure the long-term importance of sorting out Britain's messy divorce

A CROWDED ROAD

Many obstacles stand in the way of the Transport Green Paper

The Department of Transport has been this Government's Cinderella ministry. It has been the departure lounge for declining statesmen or waiting room for young men in a hurry. Consistency has been a casualty. Imaginative solutions from past ministers have withered for want of Treasury support and political daring. Sir George Young's Transport Green Paper, published yesterday, is an attempt to give coherence to future policy by balancing environmental and economic interests. It is certainly comprehensive but far stronger on diagnosis than prescription. Progress still depends on expending capital - financial and political - to get Britain moving.

- :

The Green Paper was the brainchild of Sir George's predecessor, Brian Mawhinney. Facing another bleak public expenditure round where his department's road-building programme was to be further squeezed, Dr Mawhinney made a virtue out of a necessity. The car, once a potent symbol of Eighties economic liberation, was consigned to the sliproad of history. Dr Mawhinney presented the deceleration of road-building as a response to public worries about congestion and pollution. He initiated a national debate on alternative solutions and encouraged interested parties to contribute. The Green Paper is the product, a suitably filleted digest not a manifesto.

The main thrust, albeit tentative, of the Green Paper, is towards improving public transport. Sir George is anxious to get freight off the roads and people out of cars. He hopes privatisation will see the railways revived and a campaign to boost the popularity of buses could change travelling habits. He is also keen to ensure that those goods which do travel by road are conveyed more efficiently; there has to be room for greater productivity in haulage when 25 per cent of lorries make their journeys unladen.

They are worthy objectives but his methods are not always equal to the task. The Green Paper recognises that transport choices, like most economic choices, are made more efficiently when customers bear the real cost of their behaviour. Yet the paper shies away from a comprehensive and coherent scheme of road-pricing. Sir George prefers to contemplate raising duties and embark on a series of "wide-ranging discussions" with industry to improve business efficiency. Tax and talking may help but a positive embrace of market solutions promises more in the long term.

The Green Paper has several unambiguously worthwhile recommendations. The introduction of a single number, with a human voice at the end of it, for national train inquiries is a small but solid blessing. Proposals to encourage cycling, the greenest and cheapest of all forms of transport, are wholly welcome. Most significantly of all, the proposal to reform the planning of trunk roads to ensure wider consultation and more detailed planning should ensure that those improvements which are required in the road network are less likely to be impeded.

The debate started by Dr Mawhinney may have, initially, been more a matter of political finesse than high principle. But it has helped clarify policy. Now comes the need for commitment in infrastructure investment and more boldness in freemarket solutions for the environment.

TOUCH OF LEATHER

A Thirty Years War for football's Holy Grail

The ball with which England defeated West Germany in the World Cup final of 1966 has attained almost mystical significance in the minds of soccer folk. Its orange leather panels are being fought over today as though they were relics of saints. Three decades on, it is a symbol of English soccer's finest hour. Its return to this land might even be an omen of success in this summer's European championship. The fans want it

By English traditions the ball should never have left home at all. The icon should have gone to Geoff Hurst who scored a hattrick in the 4-2 victory at Wembley. But as the final whistle was blown, the ball was snatched by a German, Helmut Haller, who cites an unlikely-sounding continental tradition that the last player to kick the ball gets to keep it. The defeated West German defied the referee's instruction to hand it back, and the souvenir of England's triumph dis-

appeared. What happened over the ensuing years is a mystery. Now there are as many as 30 footballs in Germany purporting to be the true relic. The most likely claim is that of Jürgen Haller, son of the player who ran away with the ball, who says he rediscovered the trophy in a cellar near Munich. He has now reportedly hired bodyguards and kicked the ball into the back of a safe deposit box. A rival ball has surfaced in Dusseldorf; there is talk of dozens more across Germany: a mysterious reappearance of the

true ball in Learnington Spa is predicted. Cheque books are out as tabloid newspapers, agents and football historians wrangle over who owns the battered leather talisman. The reluctance of the Germans to return this symbol of their defeat reflects the Thirty Years War that has been fought over the result of the game. The Germans have never fully accepted that they were beaten at Wembley in 1966 - claiming that Geoff Hurst's second goal did not cross the line. Over the years teams of scientists, geometricians and engineers have been employed to analyse film and computer simulations in attempts to discredit the goal: all to no avail. These scientific teams could well be employed over the next 30 years trying to establish the authenticity of assorted balls; dye and leather now face tests as stringent as those used on the Turin Shroud.

Blame is falling once more on the football authorities for ever having let the ball vanish. We recall that they did seem to have been somewhat careless in 1966. Only weeks before the World Cup competition began, the Jules Rimet Trophy for the winning team was stolen. It turned up a few days before the kick-off, discovered behind a bush by a

dog called Pickles. Unlike the trophy, the World Cup ball cannot be melted down and has no material value. But try telling that to those who are now trying to cash in on its history. It should surely be returned to the only man who has a real claim on it - Geoff Hurst Why should the Germans still want to hang on to what is, after all, a permanent symbol of their defeat? They may have thought it was all over 30 years ago. But it will not be, until the true World Cup ball is safely back in England.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

on UK in Europe

From Mr Ray Whitney, MP for Wycombe (Conservative), and others

Sir, Your description (leading article, April 25) of the Prime Minister's remarks on Europe to the Institute of Directors as a "precarious straddle between opposing positions" is ungen-

His speech (report, April 25) was a robust restatement of a set of views which are coherent and consistent. He affirmed our role in the European Union and his determination that it should be a union of nation states an objective shared by other European leaders. As Chancellor Kohl regularly says, no one wants a centralised superstate. It does not and never will exist.

John Major yesterday threw down the gauntlet to those who believe we should leave the Union or that Britain's interests could be protected by some sort of trading relationship with the rest of Europe. He spelt out clearly the economic, political and strategic benefits of our membership, all of which would be put in jeopardy should we heed the demands of the Euro-sceptics.

At a time when the European debate has descended into unreality, often verging on hysteria, and he himself is under so much pressure, the Prime Minister has once again shown his good sense and steadfastness.

RAY WHITNEY, **QUENTIN DAVIES,** TRISTAN GAREL-JONES, JOHN HANNAM, TIM RENTON ANDREW ROWE, House of Commons. April 25.

From Mr Charles Wide, QC

Sir, With reference to the Prime Minister's speech to the institute of Directors, contrary to his assurances when the Maastricht treaty was rammed through Parliament, it is obvious that things are not going our way in Europe. On the Continent there is an implacable determination to integrate further.

Does Mr Major believe that we should stay in the European Union at any cost to our independence? What should we do if a Europe of sovereign nation states is no longer on offer?

Yours faithfully, CHARLES WIDE, Church Cottage Main Street, Glapthorn, Northamptonshire. April 25.

From Mr Neil A. Spiers

Sir, Mrs Elisabeth Sandys (letter, April 23) seems a little misinformed about Sir James Goldsmith and his Referendum organisation.

If she wishes to support a political party whose aim is the "pursuit of re-storing our traditional democratic and sovereign rights" as she indicates. then she should support the UK Independence Party and not Sir James Goldsmith who, whilst appealing to the anti-EU lobby with his party, is in favour of remaining in the European

Yours sincerely, NEIL A. SPIERS, 37 Twynham Road. Maidenhead, Berkshire. April 25.

From Mr D. J. Tapper

Sir, The real attraction offered by the Referendum Party of Sir James Goldsmith is that it provides a democratic option that did not previously exist in British politics.

I do not profess to understand the minutiae of the Treaty of Rome or of Maastricht but I do know that I dislike the way in which what was the EEC is developing and the loss of sovereignty that is appearing on the hori-

Prior to Sir James's intervention 1 considered myself to be disfranchised. Thanks to the Referendum Party I can now express my fears through the ballot box. If this concerns any of the major parties then I am delighted.

Yours faithfully, D. J. TAPPER, 5 Hillbury Gardens, Warlingham, Surrey. April 25.

From Mr P. V. Radford

Sir, Is it not time that we looked at some of the advantages of our membership of the EU?

Can anyone seriously suggest that the export of British beef would not have been banned or that the measures we are being forced to implement would have been any easier to negotiate if we had been outside the

And perhaps one of the more vociferous Euro-sceptics might like to explain who would be sharing the cost

Yours faithfully. PATRICK RADFORD. Langford Hall, Newark, Nottinghamshire.

Business letters, page 29

Letters for publication should carry contact telephone numbers. We regret that we cannot accept letters by telephone but they may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5046.

Challenging views Blake case impact on official secrecy

From Mr Hugh Mooney

Sir. Three cheers (once again) for Sir Richard Scon, Vice-Chancellor of the Chancery Division, in throwing out the Government's transparent attempt to increase official secrecy by the back door in its vengeful action to confiscate the profits of the traitor George Blake's autobiography, No Other Choice (report, April 20; Law Report, April 23j.

As gatekeeper of government secrets the Attorney-General, Sir Nicholas Lyell, claimed that Blake owed a lifelong duty to keep his mouth shut about his work in British intelligence. That was going too far, said Sir Richard, knowing that the duty did not apply only to traitors like Blake but to ousands of loval citizens, including Cabinet ministers, generals and ambassadors, who might be induced not to write their memoirs.

British political experience is impoverished by this doctrine of official secrecy, which prevents many public servants from giving their first-hand accounts of their experiences. We are left to read the much weeded files 30 years on, if we are lucky.

One consequence is that the rare whistleblowers, the media conspiracy correspondents and their anonymous sources, are often the first and only source of information on the secret world. Because it is a secret world, the authorities can neither confirm nor deny their stories. Secrecy about the truth actually helps perpetuate myths about intelligence and government. One example is the so-called plot by M15 to overthrow Labour Prime Minister Harold Wilson in 1974.

It is, however, naive to expect any great change in the culture. As a former member of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's Information Research Department I was recently sent a copy of the official early history of this secret department, but it signalled no move towards more openness.

I was reminded that I was still bound by the declaration on the Official Secrets Act made when I had joined the department. When I protested that the section had been repealed it was acknowledged that I was not bound by it. When I asked for guidance on my obligations under the revised Official Secrets Acts I was ad-

vised to consult a solicitor. What government departments want is a legal right to take action against anyone who publishes anything containing official information without prior authority.
Serving and retired public servants

have been told for years that they have a legal duty to present a manuscript for clearance before offering it to a publisher. Sir Richard has ruled that there is no legal basis for these gagging demands unless the public servant has previously made a binding agreement to keep his mouth shut.

Yours faithfully, HUGH MOONEY (Member, FCO, Information Research Department, 1969-77), Anchor Conage Prickwillow Road Isleham, Cambridgeshire. April 23.

From Professor Emeritus Charles Čhadwick

Sir, II, as your report of April 19 states, under the law no criminal is allowed to profit from his crime while serving his sentence", that point seems to have been ignored, or interpreted in a very

Blake, having escaped after six years in prison, may not be actually serving his sentence, but the serving of that sentence has yet to be completed. If the Scott decision stands, does it not mean that any escaped prisoner can profit from his crime for as long as he can avoid recapture?

The solution would seem to be to ensure that "no criminal is allowed to profit from his crime until he has served his sentence". Whether he should be allowed to do so even then is another matter.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES CHADWICK, The Beeches, William Street. Torphins, Aberdeenshire.

Showbiz bias in Bafta awards?

From Sir David Nicholas and Mr David Plowright

Sir, ITV's showing of last Sunday's awards ceremony by the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (report, April 22) dishonoured a large section of British programme-making. The growing dominance of the showbiz side of Bafta resulted in II awards covering news, current affairs, the arts and sport being omitted from the programme seen by millions

of viewers. The one journalistic programme award shown in the broadcast was for Panorama's interview with the Princess of Wales and that was contrived by re-designating Panorama as a

Among the winners excluded from the broadcast were ITN's Channel Four News coverage of war crimes in Yugoslavia (best news); BBC coverage of VE-Day celebrations (best live programme): BBC2's Death of Yugoslavia (best factual series). The best single drama (BBC's Persuasion), all children's and arts programmes were

also excluded. An outstanding success in British film-making, recognised internation-ally with a string of Oscars, is our film animation. Bafta has shunted off the animators to a separate evening, out of sight of the cameras.

A whole raft of British program ming, appreciated by millions, is thus being sidelined by showbiz values. A little extra time on the programme, some disciplining of endless, inane kissogram thank-yous and deft editing of inflated compilations could have found room for due recognition of home-bred programme excellence.

Yours sincerely, DAVID NICHOLAS (Chairman, ITN, 1989-911. DAVID PLOWRIGHT (Chairman, Granada Television, 1987-92). Lodge Stables, Kidbrooke Park Road, Blackheath, SE3. April 23.

Tailoring education to needs of ever-changing society

From Professor Sir Bryan Thwaites

Sir, Sir Claus Moser's speech to the Royal Society of Arts, as reported by you (April 18) under the headline Standards in schools are still slip ping' ", is immensely depressing, not so much because of its long-standing truths as to the statistical trends but far more because it characterises the inability, or reluctance, of our educational and political leaders to face more fundamental questions about compulsory state education.

In the last three decades of the 1800s the authors of the first few Education Acts reacted very simply and briefly to what were generally perceived to be the needs of the society of the day: namely, a grasp of the three Rs and knowledge of morality and religion. A hundred years later society is immeasurably more complex and is changing at bewildering speed, so even those original most basic of aims are

open to manifold interpretations. The facts now are that no one can foretell the specific skills which will be needed by the general populace in 10 of 20 years' time, and that morality has succumbed to subjectivism. The word "standards" therefore is no long-er applicable to a system of so-called education which, by a large proportion of those of school age, is regarded as irrelevant to their adult life.

mous amount of time and energy which is nowadays being spent on irrelevant minutiae, based on 19th-century notions, into more fundamental appraisals of what the children of the 1990s need for the 2020s.

Yours faithfully. BRYAN THWAITES, Milnthorpe, Winchester, Hampshire. April 18.

From Mrs Katie Ivens

Sir, Sir Claus Moser is right: education standards are slipping. The slip has become a vertiginous slide as the products of the Plowden primary system - in which whole-class teaching and proven methods of teaching the three Rs were abandoned in favour of mixed methods" - pass through a still largely monolithic, egalitarian, comprehensive system pervaded by

the dogma of "mixed ability". But Sir Claus is also wrong. While expressing dismay that in relation to giving emphasis to "the abler children and the slightly more privileged ... the bottom half is even worse off, he alleges that structural reforms of sec-

cal diversion. Structural reform is an educational necessity: both top and bottom halves of the ability and "privilege" range will continue to under-achieve until diverse schools addressing pupils diverse needs replace the failed compre-

hensive system. Things will go on getting worse before they get better until the Government's reforms - effective teaching of the basics in primary schools and choice and diversity in secondary schools - are delivered. The Secretary of State should cease placating teacher

unions and local education authorities

(the vested interests), back her stan-

dards-bearing Chief Inspector Chris

KATIE IVENS (Vice-Chairman. Campaign for Real Education). 2 Mulgrave Road, NW10. April 18.

Woodhead, and get a move on.

Youth and the Church From the Reverend Alan Cooke

Sir. A teacher who talks in tendentious terms of "churchianity" and "priesteraft" as contrasted with "the real world" (Mr John Pearman's letter, April 17) may not be the best person to help his students learn more about the work and function of a

However, there will remain in most communities hard-working priests and ministers who would be perfectly willing to respond to any teacher's invitation and speak to students about their vocation and about why it is both necessary and fulfilling.

Yours faithfully, ALAN COOKÉ. The Vicarage, Milne Street, Chadderton, Oldham, Greater Manchester. April 22.

From the Chief Minister of Gibraltar

Sir, In his letter of April 19 the Spanish Ambassador in London alleges incorrectly that there is persistent drug trafficking from Gibraltar, with little or no action on the part of the Gibraltar authorities. He also wrongly implies that the new licensing proce-dures introduced in Gibraltar last

The measures introduced last July prohibited the importation of the particular type of vessel allegedly involved in drug trafficking between Morocco and Spain. Of the sixty or so such vessels then berthed in Gibraltar, about half were found to be here illegally and to be mainly owned and operated by Spaniards and UK citizens living on the Costa del Sol.

Some of these vessels left Gibraltar for good, others were confiscated by the authorities, and measures were taken to curtail the movements of the

Never too late From Mr T. J. Bellers

Sir, Mr John Orton's letter (April 17) about Voluntary Service Overseas having a 70-year upper age limit prompts me to say that British Executive Service Overseas, which currently sends out 700 senior volunteers overseas on aid assignments every year, has no upper age limit. Indeed, last year several 80-year-olds and even more hale and hearty people over 70 performed very worthwhile and professional short assistance assign-

The bad news is that we don't pay anything and we send people to even more far-flung and underdeveloped

T. J. BELLERS, Director, British Executive Service Overseas. 164 Vauxhall Bridge Road, SWI. April 19.

more are based in Spanish ports, Rock's reply on drugs where they appear to be subject to no

July were confined to speedboats.

twelve or so which remain. Many

form of control or limitation. Gibraltar is committed to the fight against drugs. Our anti-drugs laws are much stronger than Spain's. It is illegal in Gibraltar to use cannabis and unlike Spain, Gibraltar has implemented all EU and UN requirements in the fight against drugs and money laundering. What little connec-tion attaches to Gibraltar in the drug trade between Spain and Morocco

will be eliminated. If the Spanish authorities were to introduce the kind of legislation and controls which we have in Gibraltar. the movement of vessels engaged in cannabis-smuggling between Spain and Morocco would drop significantly, and fewer drugs would enter Gibraltar by land from Spain.

Yours faithfully, J. BOSSANO, Chief Minister, 6 Convent Place, Gibraltar.

Milk and breast cancer From Professor Jane A. Plant Sir, According to Dr Helen Wiseman, of King's College London, consump-

tion of soya protein in oriental cooking may account for the low rates of breast, colon and prostate cancer in countries such as Japan and China treport, April 17). I should like to suggest that the low consumption of dairy produce in these countries is also a factor.

Recent studies have implicated milk in the promotion of breast cancer, I myself have suffered from breast cancer, which recurred five times over a six-year period. I have always eaten and continue to eat considerable quantities of soya products.

The last time the cancer recurred, about three years ago, I and colleagues who have worked in China and similar countries concluded that low consumption of dairy produce was one of the key differences between Western and oriental diets. I gave up all dairy produce and my secondary tumours disappeared and I have had

no subsequent illness. Yours faithfully, JANE PLANT. 12 Debdale Lane. Keyworth, Nottingham.

After Levin's blood

From Mr Tim Towle Sir, Anjana Ahuja reports (Body and Mind, April 23) that researchers are finding that those who construct long and complex sentences may be less likely to contract Aizheimer's disease.

Bernard Levin has a public responsibility to send them a blood sample forthwith.

Yours etc, TIM TOWLE, Beehive Cottage. 2a Frensham Road, Farnham, Surrey. April 23.

Forthcoming

marriages

Mr A.M. Ballheimer

and Miss L.J. Mears

the late Arme Hague.

and Miss K.E. Allison

Mr A.D. Brewis

Mr M.J. Docherty

Mr C.D. Flook

and Miss K. Hirao

Mr N.D.K. Glazebrook and Miss R.P. Bowes Lyon

Mr I.J.B. Gray and Miss K.A. Stormont

Hertfordshire.

Green, Surrey.

Mr J.M. Horstead

The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mrs Ellen Ballheimer and the late Mr Hans

R. Ballheimer, of London, and

Lisa, daughter of Mr Michael

Mears, of Broadstone, Dorset and

The engagement is announced

between Andrew, only son of Mr

Robert Brewis, of Kingswood,

Surrey, and Mrs Linda Brewis, of

Tadworth, Surrey, and Karen,

only daughter of Mr and Mrs

Brian Allison, of Weybridge.

The engagement is announced between Mark Docherty and

Fiona McWilliams, of Little

The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs David Flook, of

Wargrave Berkshire and Kazuko, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michiyasu Hirao, of Fujisawa.

The engagement is announced between David, elder in of Mr and Mrs Ben Glazebrook, of London, and Rosie, daughter of

Mr and Mrs Simon Bowes Lyon, of St Paul's Walden Bury,

The engagement is announced between Ian, son of Mr and Mrs

Basil Gray, of Teviothead, Roxburghshire, and Karin,

daughter of Mr Denys Stormont,

of Cascais, Portugal, and of Mrs

Aletta Brennan, of Shamley

and Miss F.M. McWilliams

Mr E.M.H. Page and Miss M.H. Murray

Mr.J.R.A. Rennison

and Miss S.K. Field

Mr D.C. Ross and Miss C.D. Isaacs

The engagement is announced

between Edward, son of Mr and

Mrs Anthony Page, of St Albans, Hertfordshire, and Melissa, daughter of Mr and Mrs Martin Murray, of Mill Hill, London.

The engagement is announced between John Robert Alexander.

son of Mr and Mrs R.W.

Rennison, of Gosforth, Newcastle

upon Tyne, and Sian Kirin, eidest

daughter of Mrs P. Field and Mr J.

Pankhurst, of Dean's Grange, Co

The engagement is announced between David, elder son of Mrs

Mia Ross and the late Mr Eric

Ross, and Catharine, daughter of

The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and

Mrs Frank Wellings, of Poling, Sussex, and Sasha, younger

daughter of Mr and Mrs Jeremy

Skinner, of Stocking Pelham, Hertfordshire.

The engagement is announced

between Daniel only son of Mr and Mrs Michael Wells. of

Dr and Mrs Anthony Isaacs.

Mr M.G. Wellings and Miss S.N.B. Skinner

Mr D.M. Wells

and Miss L.A. Holmes



COURT CIRCULAR

Crowden).

shire and was received on arrival by

Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of

Cambridgeshire (Mr James

Her Royal Highness visited

borough and subsequently visited the international Children's Trust. 50

Willesden Avenue. Peterborough.

Afterwards The Duchess of Glouces-

ter opened new buildings at the Caverstede Nursery School, Caver-stede Road, Paston, Peterborough and later opened the Iceni Unit at County Hospital, Doddington.

The Duke of Gloucester, Trustee, the

British Museum, this evening opened

the exhibition 'Stairways to the Sky: Rice and Life in the Philippines' at the Museum of Mankind, 6 Burlington

April 25: The Duke of Kent this evening attended the final concert of the Donatella Flick Conducting Com-

petition, the Barbican Arts and Conference Centre. Silk Street. London EC2.

The Duchess of Kent this morning opened the John Morgan Sports Complex. St Edward's College, Sandfield Park, Liverpool and was

met on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Mcrseyside (Mr

Her Royal Highness, Patron, this afternoon opened the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit and Education

Centre, Alder Hey Children's Hos-pital, Eaton Road, Liverpool; and

later visited Scientific Hospital Sup-

tree Boulevard, Wavertree Technol-

Royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh will attend a dinner with the Military Knights of Windsor at Windsor Castle at 8.10.

The Princess Royal, as Patron of the Butler Trust, will visit HM Prison

ogy Park, Liverpool, Merseyside.

International Limited, Waver

Gardens, London WI.

ST JAMES'S PALACE

YORK HOUSE

stholm School, Reeves Way. Peter-

WINDSOR CASTLE

April 25: The Queen this morning visited Maidenhead Magistrates visited Manderhead Magistrates'
Court and was received by Her
Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Berkshire (Mr Philip Wroughon), the
Chairman of the Bench (Mrs Janet
Anstis) and the Chairman of the
Magistrates' Association (Mrs Roseman Theorem)

The Duke of Edinburgh. Patron. Outward Bound Trust, this afternoon gave a Luncheon at Frogmore House, Windsor Home Park.

By Command of The Queen, the Lord

Lucas of Crudwell (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport. London, this morning upon the Departure of The President of Mongolia and Mrs Tsezelmaa and bade His Excellency and Mrs Tsezelmaa farewell on behalf of The Queen. ST JAMES'S PALACE

April 25: The Prince of Wales this morning visited the Museum of Man and Nature in Winnipeg, and unveiled a plaque to commemorate the veiled a plaque to commemorate the donation to the Museum of the Hudson's Bay Company Archives. His Royal Highness subsequently met staff and patients of the Palliative Care Unit of St Boniface General Hospital and toured the Forks Covered Market.

The Prince of Wales Inter-visited

Covered Market.
The Prince of Wales later visited The Children of the Earth High School, the first Aboriginal High School in Manitoba.
His Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Winnipeg Rifles [Linle Black Devils), this afternoon visited the Regiment's Drill Hall of Minto Armouries and met members of the Regiment and their families, and watched a number of working

and watched a number of working demonstrations.

The Prince of Wales this evening

arrived in Toronto and was received by the Honourable Henry Jackman. Licutenant Governor of Ontario. His Royal Highness later attended a Dinner given by the Honourable Henry Jackman at Queen's Park. **BUCKINGHAM PALACE**

April 25: The Princess Royal, President. British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, this morning visited the offices and showrooms and attended the Board of Management Meeting at 5 Portland Place, London

Her Royal Highness, Patron, this evening attended the Liverpool School of Empical Medicine Vice Presidents' Meeting and Dinner at the Tate Gallery, Liverpool, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Merseyside (Mr Alan Waterworth).

KENSINGTON PALACE April 25: The Princes Margaret. Guide Association, held a Reception at Kensington Palace this afternoon following the presentation of Breaches to those who have become

Queen's Guides. KENSINGTON PALACE April 25: The Duchess of Gloucester

Memorial service Wing Commander Roderick

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Wing Commander Roderick Alas-tair Brook Learoyd, VC, was held vesterday at St Clement Danes. Strand. The Rev Peter Bishop offici-ated Marshal of the RAF Sir Michael mand Association read the lesson and Flight Lieutenam S.C. Stocker. HQ No I Group, read High Flight by Pilot Officer John Gillespie Magee.

Mr Raymond Baxter gave an address. Wing Commander Learnyd's medals were carried in procession from the West Door to the Altar by Squadron Leader Harry Bird, of 49 Squadron Association, escorted by Mr John Russell, of the Bomber Command Association, and Mr Edard was carried by Mr Ron Pearson. The Chief of the Defence Staff was rice Cried by Air Vice-Marshal P.J. Harding and the Vice-Chief of the Defence Staff by Air Marshal Sir Roger Austin (Controller, Aircraft). The Chief of the Air Staff and Lady

Gravdon attended.

and YOL Styal, at 9.30; as Patron of the Quarry Bank Mill Trust, will visit Quarry Bank Mill, Styal, Wilmslow, at 11.20; as Patron of the Home Farm Trust, will visit a new charry shop at 2) Market Street, Marple, at 12.15; as Patron of SENSE — The National Deafblind and Rubella Association. Deathind and Rubella Association, will visit a unit for deafblind pupils at Royal Schools for the Deaf Manchester, Stanley Road, Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle, Greater Manchester, at 1.00; and, as President of the British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, will visit Angelica

rnational. Ashton Road, Golborne, Warrington, at 2.50 The Duke of Gloucester, as Deputy Colonel-in-Chief of The Royal Logistic Corps, will present medals to 37 Transport Regiment Royal Logistic Corps at Buller Barracks, Aldershot.

St Mark's Hospital The Archbishop of Canterbury gave

an address at a service of thanks-giving held yesterday. "St Mark's Day", in the Himsworth Hall, Northwick Park and St Mark's sister-in-taw). Mr and Mrs Terence Spencer throther-in-law and sister). Mrs Mona Browning. Mr and Mrs Simon Learned. Mr Edward Learned. Mr and Mrs David Anderson, Mrs Rainer Priest, Miss Cara Spencer. Mrs Mary Jones. Hospitals to mark the move of St Mark's Hospital for Intestinal and Air Chief Marshal Sir Neil Wheeler, Air Marshal Sir Timothy and Lady Garden, Air Marshal G A Robertson (representing Air Officer Commanding in Chief. HO Sinke Commandi, air Nee-Marshal M D Smart (representing the Air Member for Personnel). Air Commodore M K Widdowson (representing Air Officer Commanding 11-14 Group). Air Commanding 11-14 Group. Air Commanding Published (representing Air Commanding). Coloructal Disorders from City Road. Islington, to Northwick Park. The Rev Tony Andrews, Chaplain, officiated, assisted by the Rev Peter Hemingway, Vicar of St Alban.

Logistics Command.

Captain R W Annand, VC, and Mrs Annand, Flight-Lieutenant J A Crulkshank, VC, Mr J P Kenneally, VC, and Mrs Riley, Mr G Riley, GC, and Mrs Riley, Mr C Wilcox, GC, and Mrs Wilson, Mr G Riley, GL, and Mrs Wilson, Mr C Walker, GC, and Mrs Walker, Mrs L H Harrison, Mrs P J Harding, Mrs John Russell, Mrs Harry Blod, Mr Richard Bird, Mr Philip Bird, Mr Stanley Harding, Mr L Gibson, Mr Derek Hurt, Mr Peter Holmes, Mrs and Mrs Eric Thompson, Air Commodore and Mrs D J Loveridge. Mrs Julia Pickles, Mr R Macmillan, Mr Richard Wilkinson, Squadron-Leader Mauric Smith.

The Chaliman, Secretary and other Cross. Roman Catholic Chaplain. and the Rev Christine Cornell. Free Mrs Helen Fletcher-Rogers, Vice-Chairman of Northwick Park & St Mark's NHS Trust, and the Bishop of Willesden read the lessons. The Rev Eric Holdstock, the Rev George Haines, the Ven Peter Broadhent and

Squadron-Leader Maurice Smith.

The Chairman. Secretary and other members of the VC and GC Association, the Secretary of the 49 Squadron Association, representatives of Bomber Command Squadron 550 and 100, the Bomber Command Association, the Aircrew Association. Boon, the South Exstern TAVRA. the RAF Benevolent Fund, the 35 Squadron Pathfinders Association, the RAF Museum, the Imperial War Museum, the Royal Start and Garter Home, Richmond, the Astorn Martin Owners Club, the Governors of Wellington College and the Old Wellingtonian Society; and the Commonwealth Federation. Harrow, directed by Mr John Bar-nard. Among others present were: The Mayor of Brent, the Mayor and Mayoress of Harrow, Mr Hugh Dykes, MP, Mr Michael Cole, Chief Executive Officer of the hospital. Mrs Beatrice Signur O'Maloner, Ividow of the great-grandson of Frederick Salmon, the founder of St Marks Hospital in 1835]. Mrs Elieen Carey ia former nurse) and many other past and present members of the staff of St Marks and Northwick Purk Hospitals.

Harrogate Spring Flower Show

Final flourish at Valley Gardens

By Alan Toogood, HORTICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

at the 69th Harrogate Spring Flower Show, which opened yesterday, is for the first time being shared by two exhibitors, one showing good garden plants, the other alpines.

This show is a celebration of 50 years in the Valley Gardens," said Alan Ravenscroft, show director for the North of England Horticultural Society, the organisers. "The show has outgrown the site and as this is the last in the Gardens it is a sad occasion, but we are looking forward to a more spacious venue at the Great Yorkshire Showground."

The exhibitors have had to cope with a cold late spring and poor light, yet have managed to produce many out-of-season blooms with skilful use of artificial heating and lighting.

Sylvia and Norman Brackley, of

Wingrave, Buckinghamshire, have staged sweet pea blooms grown from seed sown last September. The Valley Clematis Nursery of

Hainton, Lincolnshire, is showing clematis hybrids that normally flower in early

Luncheon

HM Government
Lord Fraser of Carmyllie, QC. Minister of State at the Department of Trade and Industry, was th host yesterday at a luncheon given by Her Majestry's Covernment at Lancaster House in honour of Mr Kingsley Wickremaratme, Minister of Internal and Expanyl Trade Commerce and

and External Trade. Commerce and Food for Sri Lanka.

Vice-Admiral Sir David Dobson.
President of the Royal Navy Club.
1765-85, presided at a dinner held
last night in the Wardroom of
HMS Dryad.

Scriveners' Company Lord Kingsdown, KG, and Mr Alder-

Lord Kingsdown, N.G. and Mr Alderman Roger Cork, Senior Alderman below the Chair, were the principal guests at a livery dinner of the Scriveners' Company held last night at Fishmongers' Hall. Mr H.J.W. Harman, Master, presided.

Mr P.G. Lowe, Master of the Glaziers' Company, presided at a court dinner held last night at Glaziers' Hall, Mr Simon Hughes, MP, and

the Masters of the Bakers' and

Curpenters' Company and the Mas-ter of the Society of Apothecaries' of London, were among the guests.

Service dinner

Royal Navy Club, 1765-85

Dinners

Glaziers' Company

THE premier award for the best exhibit summer, including one of their own raising, red purple "Hainton Ruby".

More seasonal are the many displays of alpine plants. Potterton and Martin, of Nettleton, Lincolnshire, with Peter Orme Landscapes of Harrogate, whose exhibit is one of the joint winners of the premier award, have staged a collection of home made troughs planted with alpines and dwarf bulbs, many of them unusual including bright pink Primula allionii "Bill Martin" raised on the nursery.

Two exhibitors are showing pleiones, dwarf alpine orchids usually grown in an unheated greenhouse. Garden Creation, of Doncaster, is showing one of its own hybrids, pleione Surtsey "Stephanie Rose" whose pink flowers have a cream lip. Springwood Pleiones, of Leeds, has included one of the popular yellow hybrids. Shantung "Ducat".

Waithman Nurseries (Reginal Kaye). of Silverdale, Lancashire, has staged a charming woodland display of fresh green ferns, hellebores, celandines and wood anemones.

"A cool casis of good garden plants" is

how Jane and Leslie Oland, of Oland Plants, Risplith, North Yorkshire, the other joint winner of the premier award, describes its massive display of hardy and tender plants. There are numerous plants with bold foliage, from the giant rhubarb-like gunnera to astelia with silver sword-shaped leaves.

Another exhibit that relies more on shape than colour is the formal garden by The Great Houses and Gardens of Yorkshire Group. It includes an 18thcentury knot garden with beds of black violets, topiary and a Victorian broken border, divided by buttresses of yew and containing cordylines and pansies.

The group has created a colourful woodland garden designed by Jo Makin. of Parcevall Hall Gardens, with rhododendrons and azaleas forced into flower in heat specially for the show.

Other highlights are the Alpine Garden Society's North of England Show, a daffodil show and a flower arrangement marquee.

The shows open from 9.30am to 6pm daily, closing on Sunday at 4.30pm

Birthdays today



David Coleman, sports commentator: 70 today

Mr John Banle, MP, 45; the

Marquess of Bute. 38: Mr Justice

Cazalet, 60; the Earl of Dart-mouth, 72: Sir Gordon Downey,

former Comptroller and Auditor General, 68: Mr J.C.B. Gosling,

Principal, St Edmund Hall, Ox-

ford, 66; Professor Margaret Gow-

ing, scientific historian, 76; Mr

Stuart Higgins. Editor, The Sun.

40: Professor Sir James Holt, former Master, Fitzwilliam Coll-

ege, Cambridge, 74; Mr M.L.R. Isaac, former Headmaster, Laty-

mer Upper School. Hammer

smith, 68; Mr Justice Jacob, 55; Mr

William Tudor John. senior part-

ner, Allen and Overy, 52: Dr Lynne

Dame Margaret Scott, who is 74 today

Jones, MP. 45; Major-General Harry Knutton, former directorgeneral, City and Guilds of London Institute, 75: Dr Dame Anne McLaren, zoologist, 69: Professor Wilfrid Mellers, composer, 82: Sir Oliver Millar. Surveyor Emeritus of the Queen's Pictures. 73: Professor J.E. Morpurgo. professor of American literature, 78: Professor Philip Poole-Wilson. cardiologist, 53; Mr Peter Schaufuss, ballet dancer and choreographer, 47; Dr Ian Twinn, MP. 46; Mr Derek Waring, actor. 63: Mr Morris West, novelist, 80; Mr

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Marcus Aurelius, Roman Emperor 161-180 AD, Rome, 121: Emperor 167-180 AD, Rome, 221: Leonardo da Vinci, painter, sculptor, architect and engineer. Vinci, 1452: Alfred Krupp, industrialist, Essen. 1812; Michel Fokine, ballet dancer and choreographer. St Petersburg. 1880; Rudolf Hess, Nazi war criminal. Alexandria, Egypt, 1894: John Grierson, documentary film producer. Perth. 1898.

The Great Plague began in London,

John Wilkes Booth, actor, the assas-

sin of President Lincoln (April 14),

The Duke of York married Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon in West-

Accident at Soviet nuclear power

was shot dead by troops, 1865.

Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon in minster Abbey, 1923.

DEATHS: Jeremy Collier, controver-sialist, London, 1726; Karsten Niebuhr, explorer, Meldorf, Holstein 1815; Carl Bosch, chemist, Nobe laureate 1931. Heidelberg, Sidney James, actor, Sunderland 1976; Dame Cicely Courtneidge, actress, London, 1980; William (Count) Basie, jazz bandleader and pianist

Music was provided by the Choir of the Parish of St Alban. North Harrow, directed by Mr John Bar-

former Chanlain, the Rev Philin

Memorial services

Mr John Nichols The Lord Chancellor was represente by Mr R.A. Venne at a service of thanksgiving to celebrate the life of Mr John Nichols, Metropolican Stipendiary Magistrate, held vesterday at St John's Wood Church. The

Mr A.W. Beeson, son-in-law, read the lesson. Mr Toby Walker, grandson, read from the Earl of Lytton's Antony and Mr John Turner read T.S. Eliot's Macavity. Judge Quentin Campbell gave an address. Among those present were:

Mrs Nichols (widow). Mrs Tony Beesor (daughter). Mr Benjamin Beeson and Miss Anionia Beeson isrep-grand children) and other members of me Mr Bruce Trent

dent of the Green Room Club, gave

A memorial service for Mr Bruce Trent, former President of the Green Room Club and Deputy Musical Rai of the Grand Order of Water Rais. was held yesterday at St Paul's. Covent Garden. The Rev Michael Hurst-Bannister officiated. Mr Len Lowe and Mr Johnny Denis. Presi-

Reception

retary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the host yesterday at a reception given by Her Majesty's Government at Lancaster House in aid of the Council of Christians and Jews and the International Council of

Lord Mayor of Westminster City Hall for past Lord Mayors. London Society of Chartered

and Miss LA Mole The engagement is announced between Jonathan Mark, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Horstead, of Miss Evelyn Bowyer, FCA, Chairman of the London Society of

Chartered Accountants, presided at the Founding Societies Centenary Award Presentation Dinner held on Wednesday, April 24, 1996, at the Merchant Taylors' Hall, London, when the 1996 Award was presented by the Right Rev James Thompson, Bishop of Bath and Wells, to Lord Wakeham. The toast to the Founding Societies was proposed by Mr Keith Woodley, President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, Among those present were. The 1993 Laurente Sir Brian Jenkins and the Presidents of the other Founding Societies, Liverpool, Manchester and Sheffield.

Upholders' Company The Upholders' Company heid their annual installation dinner last night at Drapers' Hail. The Master, Mr Derek Stanley Austin. presided, assisted by the Senior Warden, Mr Peter Allocca, and the Junior Warden, Mr Roy Alian

Lecture

Nathan Lecture

on the Environment Professor Richard Macrory. Imperial College, delivered the inaugural Nathan Lecture on the Environment last night at the Royal Society of Arts in honour of Lord Nathan. The hosts were Denton Hall's Environmental Law Team and Lord Flowers presided.

The Royal Society of British Sculptors

Mrs Philomena Davidson Davis. President of the Royal Society of British Sculptors, stood down after six years in office yesterday at the Society's Annual General Meeting. The Society welcomes its new President Mr Maurice Blik.

HM Government Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, Sec-

Dinners

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster were the hosts last night at a dinner held at

> West Horsley, Surrey, and Lucy Annabelle, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Mole, of Tewin. Herrfordshire. Mr R.W. Jones and Miss R.D. Konsta The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and

Mrs John Jones, of Kington-Langley, Wiltshire, and Rachael, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Demetrios Konsta, of Bristol. Mr D.C. Moloney

and Miss D.K. Dawnay The engagement is announced between Denis Colman, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Moloney, of Dungarvan, Co Waterford, and Deborah Kate, daughter of Brigadier and Mrs Richard Dawnay, of Bath.

Gibson to be a Circuit Judge, assigned to the South Eastern Circuit Mr Denzil Anton Lush has been

appointed Master of the Court of

Blackpool

on Thursday, April IS, and will end on Friday, July 5. Prince Michael of April 25, and the Secretary of State for Education. Mrs Gillian Shephard, will be visiting on May 7. The Reception for new entrants and their parents will take place on June 10. Mr Peter Bentley, BSc. Second Master, retires in July after 37 years outstanding service to Arnold. A retirement direner is to be held on June 21.

Imperial Hotel and the Parents' & Friends' Grand Centenary Ball on June 29 at the Pembroke Hotel.

Girls' Hockey 1st XI in South Africa: members of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and of the Combined and the Italian Alps and to the Canadian Rockies respectively; and a group of Sixth Formers will be working in Buigiri, Tanzania, on behalf of Village Aid.

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Man is betrayed. Mark 14 : 21 (RES) BIRTHS

BASING - On April 18th 1996, to Sally (nie Broome) and Malcolm. a daughter. Alexandra Rose Louise, a sister for William and Alaister.
CORDNER - On April 21st. to
Cella (née Henson) and
Grant, a son, Hamish George,
Monorieff.

Moncrieff. HRRAN - On April 19th at The Portland Hospital to Karen (née Bollom) and James a handsome son James Hamish to gdore, and a pel for BJ (the dog).

DE AGUIMAGA ALVERDE Jose at The Portland
Hospital was born on April

DORAM - On April 19th 1996, to Philip and Netzsha (nie Elliott), a daughter. Popty

to Karin and Orlando, twins a son, Torin and a daughts Linden. ODEN - On April 18th 1996. to Emily (née Presce) and Christopher, a son, a brother for Maristine

HADJIPATERAS - On April

ELMHRIST - On 18th April.

OMES — On 24th April, to Lesley (née Jarvis) and David, a precious gift of a daughter. Charlotte Elizabeth

FFORT-GLAZER - On Aura MUSERAY - On 19th April 1996 at The Portland Hospital, to Kimberty (née Crawford) and Colin. a son. eron Bryce, an answe

to many prayers. PENGLER - On April 10th SPENGLER - On April 10th 1996, to Sarah and Stephen, a beautiful daughter, Britismy Aru. VELAISE - On 9th March, to 1998 - On 9th March, to Jenstiur (née Fabe) and Jens-Louis, a son, Benjamin High, a brother for Alexander,

BARRAN - On April 24th 1995 Joan Barran of Burton Leonard, dentry loved sister of the labo Dr. Kate Barran. Service at St Leonard's Church, Burton Leonard on Toesday 30th April at 11.15am followed by cremation. Flowers may be sent to Swainsons, Harrogate.

BOWEH - Colonel Cecil William M.C. O/ST/J. L/R.A.M.C. died aged 75 years in the Shropshire and Mid Wales Housice on 19th April 1996. Husband of Rosemary (see Renshaw) for 49 years. Beloved father of Jane, Sarah, and Rusert. Dear crandpa to Adam and proud "Damper" to Resect. Oliver, and Rosie. "Non Omnly Moriar" Family funeral followed by funeral followed by cremetion. No flowers. If desired, densitions to Army Benevolent Fund, or Shropshire and Mid Wales Hospice. Funeral Directors:

SHIGGS - Kennsth Burnett of Ciney, Buckinghamshire, on 2nd April 1956 suddenly at Milton Keynes General Hospital aged 83. Much loved by his late wife Margaret, son Simon, daughte-in-law Ametic and gratichildren Rebecce and Jonathan. Cremation at Crownhill Crematorium, Milton Keynes Monday 25th April at 1.30 pm. Flowers may be sent to H.W. Meson & Son, (01908) 611112.

A.S. Morris & Son, Church

CAMPRELL - Arthur John on 19th April in hospital aged 75 with great tolerance and fortitude. Father grandfather, scientist grandfather, scientist, teacher and musician. Lt. Coi. Cretch. Freeman of the Chy. For many years head of physics City of London School. Funeral private. Memorial Service at 7 pm. Thursday May 9th at CLS. Blackhtars, ECA. Donations in lieu of flowers to MacMelan Nurses.

ATHILL - On 24th April, 1996. Winifred Mary. of Lindfield. Sussex. Funeral private. No flowers please. Donations. It desired to the Cats Protection League may be sent c/o Masters & Son. 4 Denmans Lane. Lindfield, RH16 2LB. (01444) 482107.

Father,

COX - On 23rd April suddenly, Bernard, husband of the late Margaret, father of Bobel, Elaine, James and Dramel, Drawietes to Paris

CRAWFORD - On April 25th 1996 at Lyme Regis, Mary Loraine, widow of Harold D

Loraine, window of Hamon D. Crawford. Cremation at Yeovil Cremationium Wednesday 1st May 3 pm. Family flowers only. donations to Joseph Weld Louries Donntheoler, Donat. DAVIDSOR - On April 24th Dorothy Mary Brough peacefully at home, beloved widow of Jimmy, much

ioved mother of Disma and Celia and adored grandmother of Angus, Fiona, James, Thomas, Georgina and Annabel. by Service of Thanksgiving at Alf Saints, Terrington, on 28th April at 2.30 pm. No flowers please but denations if desired to N.S.P.C.C.

DUFF - Henry Emerson on 25th April suddenly at The Royal Humpshire County Hospital. Winchester. Much loved father of Sandy and grandfather of Toby. Enquiries to Funetal Directors John Steele & Son, 6 Cheef Street. Winchester, (01962) 844044.

RENCH - On 21st April 1996 psacefully in Yeovil Hospital Neville Arthur Irvin French C.M.G. L.V.O. aged 75 years of South Perrotz, Dorset. Beloved husband of Joyce, much leved father of Deborah, Christopher and Raybuse and described much loved father of Deborah. Christopher and Barbara and a devoted grandpa and will be sadly missed by family and friends. Private cremation. A Thankagiving Service will lake place at 8t Mary's Church, South Perrott. Friday 3rd May at 2.30 pm. Donations for R.N.L.L. c/o A.J. Walcely & Sons, 7 North Street. Bearmingter. Donate. PERSONAL COLUMN

FYFFE - Judith (née Buridit).
beloved wife of Tim, mother of Margaret and the late. John, grandmother of Richard, suddenly on April 23rd. Funeral Service on Wednesday May 1st at 1.45pm at St Michael's Church, Testanhall. Wolvertsemplon. Donations if desired for the Marian. Association either to the Church or to F. Jennings & Church or to F. Jen Sons Funeral Director

MARVEY - Ronald John, belowed husband of the last Angela, on 25rd April after a long lilness borns with courage and dignity. Much leved safter to Rosanna and Julian. No flowers, Danations to St Wilfridge. No flowers

HUBLEY - The Venerable
Patrick N. of Nether
Compton. Double. formerly
of Central and South
America. on April 22nd,
much loved husband of
Mabel, dear father of Judits.
Pumeral Service at 2 pm May
1st Nather Compton Church.

KING - Geoffrey Charles Hobses, in his 100th year, widower of Rits (née) Curtwright) on 22nd Abrill 1996 peacefuilt in hospital. Sedly missed by children, Jennifer, Elizabeth and Richard, grandchildren Frineral great-grandchildren, Frineral Setvice at St. John the Hichard, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Funeral Service at St John the Evangelist Church, Ashley Green. Chenham. on Tuesday 30th April 1996 at 12 noon, followed by arivate cramation. Family flowers only but if desired douations for Marie Curie Cancer Caremay be sent to A.C. Towner Limited, 2 & 4 Norman Road. St Leonards-on-Sea. East

MALCOLM - Alan Colin Drummond, formerly of Carehatton and latterty of Sotion, died peacefully at St Hetier Hospital Carehalton Helter Hospital Carshalton on 4th April 1996. Service to be held at the North East Surrey Crematorium. Morden, on 7th May 1996 at 11.30 am. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to MIND or MENCAP. All enguiries to W.A. Truelove & San Lid. tet: (0181) 642-6211.

MARTIN - On 24th April

Rojer. A Service of Thanksgiving for her life will be beld at 3 pm on Supday 6th May at St Pag's Church, Church Hill. Winchinore Hill, London N21, Family Bowers only but domaious to St Paul's Church will be most welcome.

MacRAE - On Tuesday 23rd April 1996 peacefully. Helen Grace Simpson of Truro, Cornwall and formerly of Highgate. London. A dear mother of Metri and Helen DEATHS

MARTIN - On 24th April peacefully at Bordean House after a short Hiness, Norsh Constance, beloved wife of Gordon, mother of Jamie and Tom and much loved by her five grandchildren. Family cremation followed by a Spreine Currie, Ropley, on Friday 3rd May at 3 pra. Funeral flowers or donations to The Sue Ryder Foundation c/o Kemp & Stevens, 95 High Street, Atton, Hants, GUS4 1LG, 01420-83177/85577.

MORTON - Suddenly on, Saturday 20th April 1996. Mary Hadwin Morton, born: Simia. India on 21st,

er 1913. Dearis grandmother and grea grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral on Friday 3rd May 1996 at 2.30pm at 8t Nicholas Church, Great Wilbraham, Cambridgeshire, followed by private cremetion. Family flowers only, please. Donations, if desired, to The British Red Cross. Appails Dept., 9 Grovenor Crescent, London SW1X 72J. SUMPRAY-LESUE - On 19th April Francis aged 88 of Boxmoor. Funeral Carston-Crematorium. Watford. 11.45 am 29th April. OUTHWAITE - Thoms DUTHWAITE - Thomas Lasile. relired Solicitor. peacefully on April 17th aged 87 years. Funeral at Putney Vale Crematorium on Thursday 2nd May 3 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if wished to Friends of the Edethy c/o F.W. Paine. 29 Coombe Road. Norbiton. Kingstonuson-Thames, KT2 7AY, tel. (0181) 546-4813.

PAFFARD - Dooglas Gilliat.
aged 77, died peacefully at
home on April 23rd 1996.
Dearly loved husband to
Margaret and ever happy
father to Roger, Mary, Sally.
Jane and grandfather to
Desicies, Rebecca. Cyd god
ture. Emercil Service at 52. Lucy. Puneral Service at St John's Church. Meopham, on Thursday May 2nd at 12 100m. Family flowers only but donations if wished to "Elmor Foundation - Hospics and Home Care Team" c/o viner & Sons Liu. 54 High Street. West Mailing, Kent ME19 SLU, tel: (01732) 942485.

PAYNTER - Rex suddenly at home on 22nd April, adored husband of Kate, loying at the Church Old Crematorium, Old Amersham, Bucks. Flowers and enguistes to G. Han & Soms. S Mariowes. Hemel Hempstead. Herts. (01442)

ROCHFORD - Benedict midenty on April 5th aged 20, dearly loved son and, brother of Dominic and Gregory, Funeral Service at Old Hall Green Parish Church, Puckeridge, Hertfordshire, on Tuesday Centres. Patternage. Heritorishire, on Tuesday 30th April at 1.30 pm. Family flowers only but donations if wished to Musicians Institute (Loudon) Lid. for a menorial to Ben c/o C. Powell Funeral Service Ltd. 79 Burtord Street, Hoddesdon, Herts. EN11 8HDC.

DEATHS SKIDMORE - (Woodford)
Dorwthy on 24th April 1996
peacefully at home aged 82,
much belowed pariner of Ken
and a devoted mother.
Funeral Service at All Sahnh
Church, Binfield, near
Bracknell, on Tuenday 30th
April at 11.30 att followed
by miviate characters. Samily April at 11-30 ath followed by private creaminon. Family flowers only. Donations it desired to Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund c/o Cyril H. Lovegrove. 4/5 Town Square. Bracknell. RG12 1AT. tal: (01344) 421949.

TEBSIT - On 24th April 1996
peacefully at Eurrawood
Christian Centre.
Groombridge, Pameia Tebbit
tole Gracel, MBE, beloved
wife of Peter and greatly
loved mother of Surah and
Simon, syndmother (80) of
Edward, Laura and Josmae. Edward, Lettra and Jonna. and sister to David, Helen Jureau and Virginia. Private cremation and Service of Thankaying at Crockhara Hill Church at 2 pm on Wednesday, 1st May. No flowers. Donations it desired to Cancer Respects.

WALKER - Patricia on Wednesday 24th April 1996 aged 76 years, beloved wife of the late Major Denzis Walker, muther of Robert, Jane and Patrick, much ioved grandmother, Funeral Service at Ail Saints Church, Wytham. Oxford. on Tuesday 30th April 1996 at 11.30 am. Family flowers

WHECK - Elimbeth Margaret (nie Dalglieth) suddenly but pancefully on April 24th at Royal Hampahire County Hospital. 'Much loved'. Pospital. 'Magni love's.

Funeral Service at Cheritur.

Parish Church, nr.

Winchester on Wednesday

May 1st at 11.30 am.

Flowers to Jno. Shed & Son.

Chesil House. Winchester. unesii House, Wind 9023 CHU.

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Cosham, Portsmouth, and Louise, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Holmes, of Woodstock, Marriages Mr R.A. Hodgson and Ms P.J. Vick

younger son of Mr and Mrs John Hodgson, of Wimbledon, and Ms Paula Vick, youngest daughter of Mr Paul Swackhamer and the late Mrs Cleo Swackhamer, of Santa Barbara, California. Mr S.G. Holt and Miss C.J. Stanley The marriage took place on April

20, at St James's Church, Finchampstead, Berkshire, of Si-

mon Graham Holt to Celia Jane Stanley, both of Wargrave.

The marriage took place on Sat-urday, April 6, in Santa Barbara,

California, of Mr Robert Hodgson,

Legal appointments Mr Kevin Edward Barnett to be a

Circuit Judge, assigned to the Wales and Chester Circuit. Mr Charles Andrew Hamilton

Arnold School,

The Centenary Summer term began

This term's Centenary events in clude a recital by Julian Lloyd Webber on May 4: the Founder's Day Service on May 10 when the Arch-bishop of York, Dr David Hope, will preach; the Founder's Dinner in the Spanish Hall. Winter Gardens on May II with Mr Bill Beaumont OBE. as guest of honour; Bill Beaumont's XI v School Ist XI (Captain David Fielding) on May 12: the Leavers' Service on May 16 with Dr.J. Holmes, Dean of Queens' College. Cambridge as guest speaker, the South Form Summer Ball on June 28 at the

During the Summer vacation the lst XV will tour in Australia and the

which exists for the education of

Appointments

Fletchers' Company The following have been installed officers for the ensuing year:
Master, Mr L.S. Johnson: Upper Warden.
Major-General A.P.W. MacLellan: Renter Warden, Mr R.H. Upton.

Fuellers' Company The following have been elected officers for the ensuing year:
Master: Mr Edward Wilkinson; Senior Warden, Mr Colin MacLeod; Jonlor Warden, Mr David Wartng.

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OBITUARIES

Raymond Ramsay, MBE. surgeon and Japanese PoW, died on April 3 aged 79. He was born on August 19, 1916.

A SURGEON whose character was moulded and strengthened by his gruelling experiences as a prisoner of war in Rangoon Jail. Raymond Ramsay was one of that first generation of consultants who built up the National Health Service in Britain. He was chairman of the medical management committee which designed Wexham Park Hospital, the second NHS hospital, after Swindon, to be built. He also chaired a similar committee for the nearby Nuffield private hospital.

With a definess of personal approach and a medical dexterity which owed much to his wartime experiences, he proved an outstanding clinician. He pioneered surgical techniques in the provinces, being among the first to develop the use of X-ray during surgery. He was also at the forefront of developments in thyroid surgery.

Raymond Ramsay was born in a ramshackle tin hospital in the little town of Peddie. Cape Province. South Africa. His father, who ran a trading post, had gone there with the aim of making enough money to retire. Having achieved this by the mid-1920s, he moved back to Britain with his family.

The young Ramsay was educated at St Marylebone Grammar School before going on in 1932 to study medicine at Barts. His brother was also a student there, and his father, with the wiliness of an old trader, bargained for a discount in the fees.

Ramsay qualified as a doctor in 1938, but, with the outbreak of hostilities, volunteered for active service and was commissioned into the Royal Army Medical Corps and posted to India.

In 1941 Ramsay was due to take leave in Britain, but a few days before while going through the somewhat absurd performance of taking a mounted sick parade for a cavalry regiment - his horse bolted and he was thrown, fracturing his arm. He was unable to return to England. In one sense, the accident was extremely fortunate. The ship he was to have sailed in was torpedoed on the way home and all its passengers perished.

Left behind in the East, however. Ramsay was not to evade a harrowing ordeal himself. Promoted to the rank of major, he was appointed Brigade Medical Officer to Orde Wingate's first expedition into Burms. Though tough, with a strong fighting spirit and trained for jungle manoeuvres, the expedition was severely outnumbered ly the Japanese and suffered heavy losses. In order to survive, Wingate

RAYMOND RAMSAY



ordered them to divide into several dispersal groups and try to work their

way back to the British lines. Taking command of one of these groups. Ramsay led his men back through the dense thickets. It was a perilous task and more than ten of the thirty under his command were slaughtered in jungle ambushes. Only six months later did they succeed in reaching a tributary of the Chindwin River on the other side of which, less than half a mile away, they could see the British lines. But, just when it seemed that safety was at hand, they were ambushed by a Japanese platoon, who opened fire at point blank range, and took the whole group prisoner.

Wounded in the foot. Ramsay would probably have died had it not been for the Japanese orderly who, taking pity on him, procured an elephant for him to ride. He also removed the bullet and dressed the wound with a bandage which Ramsay was to wear for the next six months, washing out the tattered scrap of cloth every day.

a Jananese guard gave Ramsay a bottle of sake, he - after long deliberations as to how best to use it - drank it with the chaplain in the small hours of the morning. Diplomatic by nature, Ramsay

tive surgery and bamboo canes were used to splint broken limbs. But when

proved himself a considerable negotiator with his captors. Once, a guard even risked his position to pay Ramsay the respect of a salute. Rather than retreating into loathing of his captors, Ramsay coped by laughing and poking fun at them. His irrepressible humour raised morale throughout the camp and helped many of his fellow prisoners to endure their ordeal. After more than two years in

captivity, with the war now ending, the Japanese prepared to evacuate the fail. Ramsay was given the unenviable task of dividing the men into those who could march and those who were too weak to make the journey. Fortunately, those who stayed were in the event spared. Those who marched had a perilous journey, staggering barefoot in the scorching heat along a railway line amid the closing stages of the war as the Allied troops advanced. They were eventually rescued by an advancing battalion of the West Yorkshire Regiment, though the prisoners, their eyesight blurred by starvation, could hardly recignise them.

After a brief period of recuperation in India. Ramsay was posted back to Brimin. As the first medical officer to return from Japanese captivity, his advice was sought over the treatment which would be required for PoWs. A number of psychiatrists had been provided, but Ramsay considered they would not be needed. Anyone who had survived the brutal conditions of a Japanese camp would have developed their own inner mechanisms to cope,

Ramsay returned to Barts in 1946 to become senior demonstrator in anatomy. One evening a friend stopped him by the fountain to show him the paper with news that he had been appointed MBE (mil).

He then went to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital where he gained his FRCS in 1949. He became senior surgical registrar at the Bristol Royal Infirmary in 1951. Two years later he was appointed consultant general surgeon to the Windsor group of hospitals. Outside his work he was a keen sailor, and generations of students and fellow doctors from Barts enjoyed his hospitality on the yacht which he moored on the Isle of Wight.

Raymond Ramsay is survived by his wife Lillian, whom he married in 1952, and by their three sons.

EVA JONES

Eva Jones, author, died in London on April 17 aged 82. She was born in Berlin on July 27, 1913.

A GERMAN Jew, cast adrift from her culture by the rise of Naziism, Eva Jones lived a life of displacement, feeling, as she put it, "like a plant with its roots in the air". It was not until she was 56 that she published her first volume of poetry, Just a Woman, which was to set her on her career as a writer. In 1976 she published a novel Thirteen - the firstperson narrative of a precocious adolescent who falls in love with her 50-year-old therapist. She followed this with four more novels: Double Decker, Malou, Miss Stipplekin and Taboo.

Eva Solon, as she was before she married, was born in Berlin, the daughter of a barrister. An effervescent girl, she made the acquaintance of her future husband, Rudy Jonas, in breathless snatches of conversation as they danced the tango. Then she was just 16, but two years after she had fled from Germany to Paris in 1933, she married him.

At that time he was a student, while she was earning her living as a singer in an anti-Nazi cabaret. Penurious. they would spend their evenings in Montparnasse, eking out a casé crême while they mingled with the exiled literary and intellectual elite of Germany. Among their acquaintances they included Thomas Mann. During the day she trained as an opera singer. Her teacher, recognising the fineness of her soprano voice — a voice capable of stretching to the uppermost reaches of Mozart's Queen of the Night — coached her

without payment for six years. On the outbreak of the Second World War, Eva Jones was interned with other German Jewish refugees in the Camp de Gurs in the Pyrenees. But recognising the danger she was in when the Germans began to advance she escaped — by then so thin that she could slip through the wire. Earning a meagre living selling newspapers in Toulouse, she was reunited with her husband.

Shortly afterwards Eva Jones was again sent to an, enforced residence in the Pyrenees, but again escaped, having heard that all Jews were to be deported to Poland. However, it was not long until German troops were to march into the "free zone" and she and her husband were forced to flee once more. With a gunsmuggler as a guide, they crossed the Pyrenees one freezing snowbound December night, in a journey so tough. her husband was later to recall, that had Eva not forced him onwards with their guide's revolver at his back, he would never have made it. On their arrival in a small Spanish village they were incarcerated but not deported, as they would have been had they

more orthodox means. It was the British Embassy which eventually negotiated their release. Eva Jones was flown, via Gibraltar, to Oxford where she joined her parents who had escaped from Berlin shortly before the outbreak of war. Her husband Rudy Jonas enlisted in the British Army and changed his name to Jones. He was among the first to march into his home city of Berlin, but for him it was a sour victory. He arrived to find that his whole family had been killed.

tried to enter the country by

After the war Eva Jones and her husband settled in Hampstead. She taught German and became involved in a flourishing poetry scene. But, encountering much discrimination as an "enemy alien," she never sang professionally again.

Her first book of poetry was published in 1969. It was followed by five novels. Her second. Double Decker, was strongly autobiographical in tone, "Most of us had fled the German Fatherland when Hitler came to power in 1933. Now that's a single sentence. 15 words and one full stop. But squeezed into it is such torment and pain that it could not be contained in one hundred volumes," Jones's narrator says. Malou, the story of a gifted singer who refuses to recognise her talents, also rings a wistfully autobiographical note.

But Eva Jones never lingered overmuch in the past. Ever passionate in her pursuit of new ideas, she developed a deep interest in Eastern spirituality. It was she, too, who was behind her husband when at the age of 75 he took a degree at the LSE followed by a PhD. Even when she suffered a severe stroke in 1988 she struggled to go on writing. dictating her work to a friend. Eva Jones is survived by her

husband and their daughter.

shared his love of opera, fine

PROFESSOR HUGH COCKERELL

1943. As he sat in the solitary confine-

ment of a dark cramped cell on his 28th

birthday, a watery bowl of rice pushed

under the grating each day, he remem-

bered the predictions of a gypsy who

had read his fortune as a child at a

Somerset fair. She had foretold that he

would become a surgeon, but that

there would be darkness surrounding

Ramsay's medical skills were invalu-

able in the jail. He ran a hospital ward

known as 6th block — and organised

a rotu so that the prisoners, drained by

hard labour, could each benefit in turn

from a brief respite. He proved an

inventive pharmacologist. Men from

the work parties found what they

called "blue stones" - copper sulphate

- which were crushed and mixed with

water as an antidote for jungle sores.

Guards were also bribed to bring in

poppies which were fermented to

produce a form of morphine, used to

counteract dysentery and cholera. Old

razor blades were purloined for primi-

his 28th year.

Professor Hugh Cockerell, OBE. Secretary of the Chartered Insurance Institute, 1945-71, and subsequently Professor of Insurance Studies at City University, died on April 21 aged 86. He was born

on May 16, 1909. HUGH COCKERELL was the leading British authority on the theory and practice of insurance. A naturally shy man, his self-effacing nature hid a wide range of talents and accomplishments During his 25 years as the chief executive the Chartered Insurance Institute, he transformed its standing as the professional body of the insurance world

and several of his publications

have become standard works Although Cockerell ended his life as a highly respected City and academic figure, that was hardly an outcome that could have been foreseen in his early years. His father ran a family estate agency and Hugh Cockerell grew up in Putney as an only child. He was sent to boarding schools from the age of seven, so that he could be with other children. But he hated Bridlington School in Yorkshire — not least for its lumpy porridge.

He sought consolation by learning to play bridge, a passion that lasted a lifetime. But at the age of 16 he had to leave Bridlington when his father's business collapsed. Taking a job as a clerk processing motor insurance claims, he continued to work determinedly by night to attain the academic and professional qualifications he lacked.

Cockerell studied for an external degree in history at King's College London, where he got a first. He excelled too in his professional exams. passing the Chartered Insurance Institute's Fellowship examination, the industry's too qualification, three years before he was even entitled to apply. But Cockerell found the institute fustily hierarchical.

He wrote an anonymous article for his trade union journal entitled What's wrong with the CII? It caused a storm in the insurance world, but the author's identity was never uncovered.

Cockerell was a lifelong supporter of the Labour Party and it was at a Fabian Summer School in 1936 that he first met Fanny Jochelman, who was making a name for herself as a writer.

They daringly decided to live together in what was then known as a "trial marriage". Though they both felt the trial a failure, in the end they changed their minds and married in 1938. They remained devotedly together until her death nearly fifty years later. Cockerell worked for Naval

Intelligence during the war. He learnt Japanese and sought to decipher intercepted Japanese signals. In his spare time he read for the Bar and qualified as a barrister. He was called by the Middle

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Temple in 1945. That same year he applied successfully to become the Secretary of the CII, without admitting authorship of his anonymous article.

He immediately embarked on a programme of wholesale reform of the institute. He was determined to impress on the insurance industry the need for professional training to the highest standards. He wanted to place CII qualifications on a par with university degrees and to win worldwide recognition for the institute. Under him, CII membership doubled, and he was appointed OBE in 1964.

Cockerell published the first of his 13 books in 1957. Teach Yourself Insurance brought an apparently dry subject elegantly to life. Subsequent books included a portrait of Lloyd's and the Dictionary of Insurance.

On retirement from the CII in 1971 he became a Senior Research Fellow at the City University and later Professor of Insurance Studies there. He

built up from scratch a now thriving faculty. The univer-sity awarded him an honorary doctorate in 1990.

At a CII lunch, given last September to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of his joining the institute. Cockerell talked candidly about the successes and failures of the insurance industry during his lifetime. He was proud to have given it a proper and professional structure. But he regretted that during his tenure "the institute failed to convince Lloyd's that underwriters needed a proper technical education and failed to convince many life insurance companies of the need for their sales staff to operate in a

"We did our best but everybody is the prisoner of preconceived ideas," he continued Certainly I was, for in all I did I thought of the needs of the lean and hungry young clerks - such as I had been when setting out on an insur-ance career. I may have grown to be a fat cat, but the lean and hungry man within me kept gnawing away." After paying graceful tribute to the current CII staff, he ended the speech: "And now I must go home and feed my own lean and hungry

professional manner".

Cockerell loved cats and crosswords: he would complete The Times crossword each day, normally well with-in the half-hour. Formidably well-read, he was a devotee of Trollope, contributing wittily erudite articles to the Trollope Society's journal.

by his two sons and a daughter.

٠,

DR PETER NEWBOLD

Dr Peter Newbold. consultant dermatologist. Worcester Royal Infirmary, 1973-95, died from leukaemia on March 28 aged 57. He vas born in Manchester on June 23, 1938.

THERE were two strands to Peter Newbold's life. Professionally, he practised as a physician in Worcester: aesthetically, he was a connoisseur of music, words and the fine arts. Each of these strands derived its strength from his encyclopaedic erudition, supported by a photographic memory.

Peter Charles Hutchinson Newbold was educated at King William's College, Isle of Man, where he took Classics and then read medicine at New College, Oxford, before going on to Guy's Hospital Medical School, London.

After junior hospital training posts in London, he spent two years at the Scripps Clinic in La Jolla, California. This was followed by another two years in Cambridge and he was awarded the Oxford DM in 1074 for his thesis on skin cancers. He was appointed as consultant dermatologist to the Worcester Royal Infirmary in 1973. There he built up a busy dermatological service which, without junior staff, made heavy demands on his time and health; and, in keeping with his deeply held Christian principles, he voluntarily extended his care and compassion to patients suffering from terminal illnesses.

Hugh Cockerell is survived He continued to keep a base in London, where he had a wide circle of friends who arts and travel. A generous host, he made use of his membership of the Travellers Club to entertain his friends in elegant surroundings with good food and wine - and with conversation which could range from obscure 18th-century operas to contemporary musicals, from 15th-century stained glass manufacture to the glories of Wren's City churches, and from princelings listed in the Almanac de Gotha to detailed accounts of meals taken in Michelinstarred restaurants. He also had a sharp eye for the absurdities of everyday life and would entertain his guests by reading out snippets from the newspapers.

An indefatigable traveller, speaking fluent French, German. Italian. Portuguese and Spanish, he would think nothing of flying to San Francisco for a few days to hear Dame Joan Sutherland open in a new production at the Opera House or of spending a weekend in Erfuri in Germany, photographing loth-century stained glass windows in the church where Luther had preached.

Patrician in appearance, he set himself the highest standards and expected high standards from others; he had little time for fools, and none at all for incompetence. Both his legs were broken some years ago in a traffic accident. Since then he had suffered recurrent infections which gradually undermined his health and forced him to retire from his work at the early age of 56.

He never married.

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DEATH OF MR. RUPERT **BROOKE**

SUNSTROKE AT LEMNOS

We regret to record the death, on April 23, at Lemnos, from the effects of sunstroke, of Rupert Brooke, the poet, a sub-lieutenant in the Royal Naval Division. "W.S.C." writes: "Rupert Brooke is dead. A telegram from the Admiral at Lemnos tells us

that this life has closed at the moment when it seemed to have reached its springtime. A voice had become audible, a note had been struck, more true, more rhrilling, more able to do justice to the nobility of our youth in arms engaged in this present war, than any other more able to express their thoughts of selfsurrender, and with a power to carry comfort to those who watch them so intently from afar. The voice has been swiftly stilled. Only the echoes and the memory remain; but they will linger. During the last few months of his life, months of preparation in gallant comradeship and open air, the poet-soldier told with all the simple force of genius the sorrow of youth about to die, and the sure triumphant consolations of a sincere and valiant spirit. He expected to die; he was willing to die for the dear England whose beauty and majesty he knew; and he advanced towards the brink in

ON THIS DAY

April 26, 1915 华沙东沙埃

The news of the death of Rupert Brooke (1887-1915) came to The Times from the Admiralty where Winston Churchill was First Lord, and where he wrote this appreciation of the poet.

perfect serenity, with absolute conviction of the rightness of his country's cause and a heart devoid of hate for fellow-men. The very thoughts to which he gave expression in the few war sonnets he has left behind will be shared by many young men, moving resolutely forward into this, the hardest, the cruellest, and the least-rewarded of all the wars that men have fought. They are a whole history and revelation of Rupert Brooke himself. Joyous, fearless, versatile, deeply instructed, with classic symmetry of mind and body, ruled by high undoubting purpose, he was all that one would wish England's noblest sons to be in days when no sacrifice but the

most precious is acceptable, and the most precious is that which is most freely proffered ... In September he was given a commission as sub-lieutenant in the Hood Battallion of the Royal Naval Division, and took part in the expedition to Antwerp; and after a winter's training at Blandford Camp he sailed on February 28 for the Dardanelles. He had a slight sunstroke early in April, and this seems to have led to a serious illness, ending last Friday in his death from blood-poisoning on board a French hospital ship. He was buried in Lemnos on Saturday. Few men have been so instantly and so lastingly attractive; and every month seemed to bring out of his nature sor new treasure of courage, gentleness, or manly wisdom. It is clear that the war surprised him and that he found in his readiness to do his duty a high religious joy. Those five sonnets nublished in "New Numbers" last December express this joy without the misgiving and emotional insecurity of his earlier verse. The one which the Dean of St Paul's quoted in his sermon on Easter Day deserved the praise which he gave to it. Finer still, perhaps, was the one on the Dead, which ends thus:

There are waters blown by changing winds to laughter And Ill by the rich sites, all day. And after, Frost, with a gesture, stays the waves that dance And wandering loveliness. He leaves a white Unbroken glory, a gathered radiance, A width, a shining peace, under the night.

; ;

NEWS

Bridge bombs were IRA's biggest

■ Two Semtex bombs that failed to go off on Hammersmith Bridge on Wednesday night were the biggest ever planted by the IRA on mainland Britain.

The planned "spectacular" - using two devices containing 30 to 40lbs of Semtex — would have blasted the structure of the west London bridge and threatened the lives of hundreds of people had the detonators worked Pages 1, 7

Release 'victory for love and truth'

■ Jonathan Jones, the businessman jailed for murdering his girlfriend's parents, was freed by the Court of Appeal after three judges took five minutes to decide that the convictions were unsafe. Cheryl Tooze, his partner of 15 years who had fought a long and dedicated campaign to prove his innocence, ran to the dock and kissed him through the bars Pages 1, 3

Three CJD cases

Three people appear to have developed Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in a Kent town where BSE, "mad cow" disease, was first ...Page I

VAT overpaid

Shops and discount stores selling goods on interest-free credit could be free to reclaim up to £5 billion in overpaid VAT, after a landmark ruling in the Court of .. Pages 1, 2

Murder trial collapses A rare private murder prosecu-

tion collapsed after the judge told the dead man's family that the evidence of an important witness was unsafe to be put before the juryPage 5

No entry plan

Plans to give local councils the power to limit the number of cars entering town and city centres were unveiled by the Transport Secretary... ...Page 6

Another refuge of male suprema-

cy has fallen after an overwhelm- .

Rotary revolution

ing vote by members of the Rotary Club of London to open its doors to womenPage 8 criminals ... Brussels setback Farmers who once grew Brussels

sprouts are turning to coriander because changing culinary fashions is leading to a decline in demand for what was once a

Labour doubts

The public has become more dubious about whether a Labour government would keep its promises, says the latest MORI Page 10

Divorce Bill trouble

The Lord Chancellor's controversial divorce reform laws look set to run into more trouble next week with Labour joining Tory rebels in backing fresh amendments... ... Page 11

Boy, 6; 'beat child'

A four-week-old boy was critically ill in San Francisco after being beaten by three youngsters aged between six and eight who broke into his parents' flat Page 14

Peace mission

Under the shadow of continued bombardments on both sides of Israel's northern border, Warren Christopher's punishing shuttle peace mission was moving towards a critical phase Page 15

War criminal hunt Iranian-trained commando units are reported to have been sent by

the Bosnian Government to kill

or capture those branded war

Rand collapse

The collapse of the South African rand is turning into a sort of economic morality fable as the African National Congress-led Government is taught tough lesstaple vegetable.......Page 9 sons by the markets......Page 17

World Cup ball back in play

A much-scuffed English soccer icon may be bouncing home. Rival newspapers are fighting for possession of the ball which Geoff Hurst slid past the West German goalkeeper three times during the World Cup final of 1966. The Sun showed early promise but in the second half the Daily Mirror appeared to be in front with a reported offer of £80,000Page 1



Pipe Corporal Chris MacPherson at a dawn service in Battersea Park, south London, yesterday to mark Anzac Day. Page 17

BUSINESS Prudential: The Prudential. Brit-

ain's largest insurer, has emerged as a strong contender to take over ...Page 25 the Woolwich ... Economy: The future direction of

interest rates is in doubt after the publication of data showing weaker than expected growth in retail sales in March.... ... Page 25 ICI warning: Tough trading condi-

tions gripping the industry took a toll on ICI as the chemicals group accompanied a 9 per cent drop in the first quarter profits with a warning of another shortfall in the second quarterPage 25

Markets: The FT-SE 100 rose 1.7 to 3,819.3. Sterling climbed from 84.0 to 84.3 after a dip from \$1.5128 to \$1.5120 and a rise from DM2.3022 to DM2.3111

TIMES WEATHERCALL

nent.surray.susset
Dorsat.Hanis. & IOW
Devon & Cornwell
Witts Glouzs, Avon, Soms
Berks, Bucks, Oxon .
Beck, Heris. & Essex
Norloik, Suttolk, Camba.
West Mid. & Shir Glam & Gv
Shrops, Herelds & Worus
Central Midlends
Lancs & Hiddlends
Lancs & Hiddlends

& S Yorks & Dales

N E England Cumbna & Lake District S W Scotland

ramoun & E Highlands ...

AA ROADWATCH

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Full moon May 3

London 8 16 pm to 5.40 am Bristol 8.26 pm to 5.50 am Edinburgh 8.42 pm to 5.38 am Manchester 8.30 pm to 5.42 am

SPORT Football: Finding the right man is far more important than the hurry to find a successor to Terry Venables as England coach, whatever the team's performance in the European championship...Page 45

Cricket: Players and coaches have spent the past six weeks honing their tactics for the start today of the Benson and Hedges Cup under World Cup rules... Page 48 Snooker: Ronnie O'Sullivan, who

was said to have belittled his last

opponent, Alain Robidoux, raced to a 6-2 lead over Tony Drago in the world championships Page 22 Women's football: Rachel Brown. 15, will become the youngest player in a women's FA Cup final when

she plays for Liverpool against

Musical high: Graham Vick produces a minor miracle for English National Opera: a convincing staging of Beethoven's opera

Theatrical success: Wallace Shawn's new play for the National Theatre, The Designated Mourner, is highly unconventional and pretty rewarding, says Benedict NightingalePage 36

Angry producer: Sir Peter Hall lashes out at the actors' union Equity for dictating who can and who cannot appear on stage Page 36

Pop on Friday: Great music from the Cranberries on their latest album; plus a fine debut by Longpigs. And Caitlin Moran shares a little "joyful abundance" with the Croydon this weekend Page 48 | Bluetones.

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

A Fujicolor Quicksnap

young photographer

Vision, the seven-day

SNAP HAPPY

camera for every

entrant in our

competition

■ PLUS ...

radio guide

television and

Do you want to be alone? Few people really are happy living on their own, says Candida Crewe.

lonely. Valerie Grove with Martin Mears, president of the Law Society, who has just told the Women Lawyers' conference what he thinks of their feminist ideas...

They just pretend they are not

EDUCATE

Staying away: 20,000 children are being educated at home. Why some parents prefer their children not to go to school _...Page 39

Leisure learning: Details on the variety of courses being offered by universities and independent schools this summer......Page 39

FOCUS

Talking it up: A report on mobile communications, a market that is now taking in so much more than an easy phone call Pages 32-34

ALE PAPE

It is not enough just to get the Russians and their neighbours to close their other Chernobyls. They have to be allowed to dispose of equivalent sources of energy. This is not just a question of necessity but also of solidarity because only one single unreliable nuclear power station is enough to put the whole world in danger

— La Libre Belgique

Preview: Tomorrow's World investigates an alternative system to

radar for keeping air travel safe (BBCl, 7.30pm). Review: Matthew Bond on the grimly fascination tale of the UnabomberPage 47

Punch and judy

If Labour MPs care about the family they must not let cheap political victory obscure the importance of sorting out messy divorce procedures.....

NESS FOROKT

Doubts

over rates after dull

ales data

A crowded road

The Transport Green Paper is an attempt to give coherence to policy by balancing environmental and economic interests Page 21

Touch of leather

They may have thought it was all over 30 years ago. But it will not be. until the true World Cup ball is safely back in England ___ Page ZI

PAUL BARKER

In the 20th century, in Western societies, marriage has become an ideal of emotional partnership. Many parents began to feel that their own demands, their own gratifications, were as important as the children's. But it becomes obvious that what matters most in a marriage is what it does for the next generation. Nothing matters as much as the children Page 20

BERNARD LEYIN.

Now who would think that a treasure trove was lurking in the calm recesses of 100 Rare Books on 100 Different Subjects? Not I. Nor did I think that I would have found myself in the middle of an argument between a leading astronomer and Voltaire... PETER RIDDELL

The public is dissatisfied with the Tories, but, as the latest poll shows, many voters have doubts about what Labour would do in

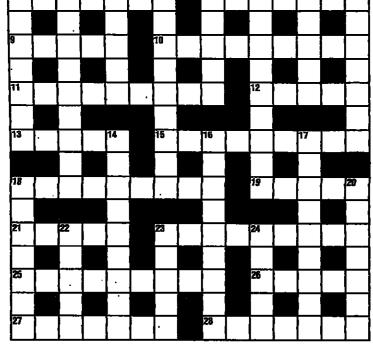
Official secrecy; UK in Europe: education; Bafta awards; youth and the Church: milk and breast

Overcas

Lightnisi

Snow

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,152



ACROSS

Song about bounder in the Greek department (7).

5 Panel with French frozen scene (7). 9 Hang out in back of beyond by water-hole (5).

10 She produces silly stories full of banal sentimentality, primarily 11 Goods carrier on certain trips (9). 12 Game shoots (5).

13 Records here discounted - 50% off 15 One of a group of solicitors

working at cross purposes? (9). 18 Usual decree for such a partner? On the contrary (6-3). 19 One not a hit as minor actor (5).

21 A warning concerning doctors pur about (5).

23 Leguminous plant with powdered 25 Routine preparations one in suit

Solution to Puzzle No 20,151

finds a chore (9).

26 Uncomplaining, so admits being a philosopher (5). 27 Like some tyres, not soft in

disagreeable way (7). 28 What's left in 9, containing uranium (7).

I Cited dictator in supplement (7). 2 Dress in which hems can go

crooked (9). 3 Area where soil's deposited as flower comes out (5). 4 Compound cleans air of poison

5 Part of plant that's underground, right? (5).

6 Canned fruit for first meeting arranged (5,4). 7 Start – head off for the middle of

8 Rebel force occupying ancient city 14 Rude solos in mess, without any

America (5).

humming (9), 16 The Statesman magazine? (3,6). 17 Stayed at home to cultivate daughter's ornamental tree (9).

18 Great work in Derby, for example 20 One gives prompt assistance as car's held up by copper, note (7).

22 Head old party (5).

23 Such dignity, when old, is standard (5). 24 Is detective using sense, and

Times Two Crossword, page 48

NEWSPAPERS

FORECAST

☐ General: most of England and Wales will have a dry, bright day, though the west and northwest will see cloud. Temperatures will be above normal, especially in the east Scotland will have normal temperatures and rain or drizzle at times. Eastern Scotland will be warm and mostly dry Breezy in north.

☐ London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E England, Midlands, SW England, Central N: dry and bright, with some sun. Wind W or NW light. Warm in most places. Max 16-18C (61-64F).

Channel Isles: dry and bright. Wind N or NE, light. Warm. Max 14C (57F). S Wales, N Wales, NW England:

0.01 0.05

rather cloudy, perhaps some coasta drizzle. Wind SW or W, mainly light. Max 14C (57F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland, mostly cloudy, but bright intervals. Perhaps some patchy drizzle. Wind SW, light or moderate. Max 14C (57F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth: mostly dry and bright, sunny intervals. Wind SW, light or moderate. Warm. Max 15-17C (59-63F). ☐ Central Highlands, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shet-land: cloudy with hill log. Rain or drizzle

Wind S or SW, mainly moderate. Max 11-13C (52-55F). Outlook: rain in north, dry in south.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

0.28 0.01 Anglesey
Aspatria
Awlernore
Betfast
Birmingham
Sognor R
Boumern'th
Bristol
Busdon
Cardia
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Colwyn Bey
Cromer
Eastbourne
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> **ABROAD** Majorca Malaga Mata Mata Mata Malor Mandro Mismi Moscow Munich N Delhi N York Narobis Nice Oslo Persis Peting Perthrogue Rrykjavi Rhodes J 20 68 1 20 68 3 20 68 4 20 68 4 29 86 4 19 66 4 112 54 1 15 59 1 15 52 7 34 93 5 22 7 8 1 21 70 1 17 63 8 18 64 7 22 72 5 18 64 0 18 64 9 16 61 8 20 88 f r 24 75 f 13 55 0 11 52 1 28 70 s X Strig'por Striction Strasb'rg Sychny Tangier Tel Äviv Tenerite Tokyo Tororso Turis Variencia Vanc'ver Venice Vierna Wash'ton Gibrattar Helsinitis Hong K Innsbrok Istanbul Jeddah Jo'burg Kerachi L Angels L Patmas Le Tquet I isthon

24 75 s 24 75 s 21 70 l 12 54 l 19 66 s 16 61 l 14 57 c 28 79 s Lisbon Locarno

縱 Sunny MODERATE Sunny 15 **Cloudy** Orizzie Rain Sunny showe Hail 13 Temperal (Celsius) Wind speek

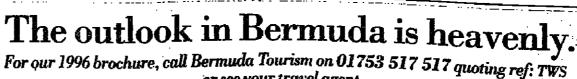
Changes to the chart below from noon: high A will remain stationary and quist decline; low C will track eastwards across Shetland towards Norway, filling stight Cold front

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Raymond Ramsay, surgeon and Japanese PoW: Professor Hugh Cockerell, authority on insurance Eva Jones, author, Dr Peter Newbold, dermatologistPage 23

cancer; Gibraltar Page 21

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ARTS 35-37

Kathryn Harries triumphant in a dazzling Fidelio



EDUCATION 39

Why some parents prefer to teach their children at home



SPORT 41-48

Young squire trains aim on Atlanta

TELEVISION AND **RADIO** Pages 43, 44

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

FRIDAY APRIL 26 1996

Doubts over rates after dull sales data

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

THE future direction of interest rates remains uncertain after publication yesterday of new data showing weaker than expected growth in retail sales.

Retail sales volumes rose by just 0.2 per cent in March, according to figures issued by the Office of National Statistics, well be-low the expected 0.5 per

However, stronger underlying growth in the sales figures hinted at a gradual return of consumer confidence, although it stopped short of signalling the return of the "feelgood" factor.

Geoffrey Dicks, UK economist with NatWest Markets, said: "Consumers may not yet be feeling good, but they are certainly feeling better."

Between January and March, the volume of sales was 0.4 per cent higher than in the previous three months and 21 per cent up on the same period of 1995. Growth was especially strong in clothing and footwear and in household goods, supporting other evidence of recovery in the

2.3

housing sector. With other statistics, such as CBI industrial data published this week, showing continuing weakness in other areas of the economy, the immediate outlook for interest rates will be dictat ed by first-quarter GDP figures, due out on Monday. If GDP is below expectations, Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, may be tempted to seek another quarterpoint rate cut when he meets Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of Eng-

land on May 8. ☐ Evidence that the US economy remains robust vesterday with data showing sales of existing homes rising 6.9 per cent in March. The strong growth was attributed to a rush to complete purchases pefore unterest rate rises took effect. Year-on-year sales rose by 16 per cent, but analysts say that sales growth will slow in coming months. US new jobless claimants rose slightly for the week to April 20, from 359,000 to 372,000.



Peter Davis, chief executive of the Prudential, has made no secret of his ambition to buy a building society or insurer "at the right price"

Pru heads running to take over the Woolwich Watchdog fines

By ROBERT MILLER AND PATRICIA TEHAN

PRUDENTIAL, Britain's biggest insurer which manages £82 billion, has emerged as a clear contender to take over the Woolwich Building Society.

Last night sources in both unofficially camps emphasised that any bid talks were at a very early stage and that the Prudential had not yet begun to conduct a "due diligence" search on the Woolwich books. The Woolwich became a prime takeover target after the abrupt departure of its chief executive Peter Robinson earlier this month over allegations of abuses of expenses and other irregularities. After a stormy annual general meeting last week one observer said: "The whole industry is casting its slide rule over the Woolwich."

If the Prudential does make a successful bid for the third largest society, which plans to become a £3 billion stock market company next summer, the 3.5 million Woolwich savers and borrowers could be in line to receive an extra £125 in addition to the already planned average payout of £1,000.

Donald Kirkham, the acting chief executive of the Woolwich, said yesterday that the society had received "around half a dozen" approaches from firms asking if it would be interested in a partnership or closer cooperation. He added: "I cannot rule out anything and I can never say never because it is too long a period," but repeated that the society's firm intention was to float and to remain independent. The Prudential, which is

also understood to have made takeover approach to Friends Provident, a fellow insurer, said: "We never comment on market rumours." Last October the Prudential announced that it was to apply for a banking licence with a view to starting up the opera-

tion later this year. Peter Davis, the chief executive of the Prudential, has made no secret of his ambition to buy a building society or insurer "at the right price" nor would he object to running two strong brand names in tandem by keeping the wellknown and respected Woolwich name under the Pru umbrella. The Prudential can expect strong opposition from rivals in its bid to buy the Woolwich. Those most often

mentioned include BAT, the

group, the Royal Bank of Scotland, National Australia Bank and the Midland.

As well as seeking a new permanent chief executive The Times has learned that the Woolwich has started a search for a new finance director. The board appointed the headhunters Whitehead Mann to find a finance director to replace Mike Tuke, 57, who has held the job for 16 months. Mr Tuke has been with the

Woolwich since 1962. Mr Kirkham, the former chief executive of the Woolwich who stepped in temporarily to fill the gap left by Mr Robinson at the beginning of this month, said the normal retirement age for directors is wants to retire early at the end of this year, beginning of next." He added that the society hopes the new finance director will overlap with the Mr Tuke for several months

before his retirement. Mr Kirkham said Mr Tuke would have been 59 at the time. of flotation, and "we did not want the crew on the flight deck changing not only when racing down the run-way but also in the first two or three years after takeoff."

He said the firm is in the middle of a final selection process, but hopes to dovetail the announcement with that of a new chief executive.

The decision to find a new finance director is believed to have been made as a result of advice from Schroders, the investment bank that is advising on the float.

Rebuff for Rothschild

ICI dips to £223m in first quarter

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

TOUGH markets for most of the chemicals industry hit ICI in the first quarter of this year. contributing to an 8.6 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £223

The shares lost 28p to 926p as the market absorbed a trading update at the lower end of expectations and a warning that second-quarter figures would also fall short of

The company has deferred plans to invest £150 million in new plant at its Wilton complex on Teesside. Last year's second-half slump in industrial chemicals has already triggered a rationalisation programme that will claim thousands of jobs in the next three years. Over the past year, 700 staff (I per cent of the payroll) have gone and ICI plans to cut 5 to 6 per cent of workers each year for three more years.

Industrial chemicals, the biggest source of ICI's earnings, fell from a trading profit of E143 million in the first quarter of 1995 to ES7 million in this year's. Petrochemicals reeled most from margin squeeze. Europe has been hard work for ICI, with volumes off 9 per cent.

Tempus. page 28

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

T-SE 100	3819.3 3.89%	(+1.7)	
T-SE A All share	1914.27	(+2.02) (-51.95)	
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LONDON MONEY

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NatWest £75,000 for Pep errors

By ROBERT MILLER

THE biggest name in high street banking has incurred the largest fine to be handed down by a City watchdog so far this year.

National Westminster Bank was yesterday fined £75,000, with costs of £45,000, by the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation (Imro). the regulator responsible for

fund managers Imro found NatWest guilty on two charges of breaching rules regarding the bank's tax-free Personal Equity Plan (Pep) business, which has 70,000 customers. NatWest said it had not had to compensate any clients. However, it is understood that the bank may have

had to buy extra shares in the market to reconcile its Pep records and book-keeping.

Imro said that for a period of more than three years, from November 1991 to February 1995. NatWest "did not fully reconcile and correct discrepancies revealed by its stock reconciliations" for 14 widely held shares. Further, Imro said that for II months in 1994 NatWest failed to carry out stock reconciliations for a fur-

ther 11 less widely held shares. On a second charge relating to inadequate stock reconciliations and poor record-keeping, imro said records in relation to certain shares "were either

In July 1993, NatWest discovered the errors and discrepanices and immediately alerted Imro. On a subsequent visit in January 1994 by the watchdog's compliance officers, it was found that NatWest had not sufficiently altered its internal procedures and that too little remedial action had been taken. Imro said yesterday that the errors and rule breaches had not been fully

corrected until February 1995. The level of the fine reflects the watchdog's view that the rule breaches related to a vital part of investor protection.

NatWest said that it had invested money in new technology systems and staff training but declined to say how much. The bank, which emphasised that no investors had been disadvantaged, added: Whilst we acknowledge imro's censure, we also confirm the regulator's statement that NatWest had now remedied these deficiencies.

Lloyds TSB to shed 500 jobs in streamlining

BY PATRICIA TEHAN, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

LLOYDS TSB, the banking group created by the merger of Lloyds and TSB at the end of last year, is to cut 500 jobs as part of a plan to streamline its

The job cuts, which are the first to be announced since the merger, will be made from the two hanks administration centres in Birmingham and The administration centre

for the new Lloyds TSB's retail

financial services business will be situated at Lloyds offices in Canons House, TSB's Victoria House in

Birmingham will be run down

and closed at the end of next year. The two banks employ 2,400 staff at the two sites, 2,200 of them in retail finan-

cial services. Lloyds TSB estimates it will need 1,300 in the new adminis-tration centre, and will cut 500 jobs. It will also relocate another 400.

The cuts were condemned by Bifu, the banking union. which has estimated that 10,000 jobs will go as a result of the merger. John Town-send, TSB assistant secretary at Bifu, said: This is just the

A Lloyds TSB spokeswoman said every effort would be



Sir Evelyn: retained control



as second director quits By Patricia Tehan, banking correspondent NM ROTHSCHILD, one of worldwide corporate finance the few remaining independent merchant banks in the City, has suffered its second

serious defection with the departure of Anthony Fry, one of its highest-flying corporate financiers. Mr Fry, 40, is senior director on a number of key accounts and had been seen as heir-apparent for the post of head of corporate finance. His clients include British Airways, Pearson, Flextech,

Chrysalis and the Telegraph newspaper group.

Mr Fry is to move to BZW. Barclays' investment bank,

presence in the media sector and help to develop its UK corporate finance business. His departure is bad news

for Sir Evelyn de Rothschild, chairman of Rothschild, after the loss this week of Michael Phair, who headed up Rothschild's privatisation work in central Europe and other emerging markets. Mr Phair is joining UBS. The two departures have

een seen by outsiders as a further indication of the extent to which younger Rothschild directors feel that the bank does not have a clear strategy. Further departures

are expected. Last year, the bank's senior directors held tentative negotiations with NatWest Markets about a possible joint venture. How-ever, although some of Rothschild's most senior directors were in favour of a link, Sir Evelyn was unwilling to lose any of his family control over the husiness.

Last summer. Smith New Court, the stockbroker in which it held a 26 per cent stake, agreed to a takeover by Merrill Lynch of the US. The deal ended Rothschild's special distribution relationship with SNC and left it without an obvious partner.



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possible."

Peter Ellwood, group depu-

ty chief executive said: "In

order to achieve the benefits

from a merger, some very

hard decisions have to be

raken and the location of our

main administration centre

was clearly going to be one of

Watches of Switzerland

Three are accused

of fraud by Bank

THE Bank of England has charged a group of businessmen operating in Southampton with offences ranging from

forgery to fraud. The Bank brought the charges at the City of

London Magistrates' Court. The three were charged with

specimen offences under the Banking Act and the Forgery

and Counterfeiting Act. Peter Lennon was charged with

offences under the Banking Act relating to fraudulent

inducement to make a deposit and providing false information. He was also charged with forgery. Roger

Charlesworth and Paul Hyans were charged with offences

relating to fraudulent inducement to make a deposit. Mr.

Charlesworth was also charged with forgery and with offences related to giving false information. All three were

Mr Charlesworth and Mr Hyans were, at the time of the

Mr Charlesworth and Mr Hyans were, at the time of the offences, directors of a company called Homesafe and also traded as Charlesworth Hyans. The Bank obtained an injunction against the three in 1994, preventing them from continuing in business. The Bank yesterday said that the alleged offences relate to actions by the three in an attempt to raise funding for development of land near Orlando, Florida.

Ramco profit falls 53%

HIGH hopes for profits from a former communist oilfield tempered the share price of Ramco Energy, the Scottish oil group, as preliminary results showed a 53 per cent dip in pre-tion.

profits to £754,000 in the year to December 31. The company said lower contributions from Penzoil dragged down an otherwise

healthy trading period. It confirmed that it is in talks to jointly develop a project in Azerbaijan, tipped to have 2 million barrels of oil left untapped by the Soviet Union. The single final dividend stays at Ip. The shares ended 10p lower at 615p.

Meridien on the menu

ACCOR, the French hotel group, is understood to have obtained potential financial backing to fund a bid for

Granada's Meridien hotel chain. Accor is thought to be interested in examining all parts of Meridien, which

Granada inherited in its takeover of Forte. Exceptional gains

of Fr643 million propped up Accor's profits, for 30 per cent

rise in last year's net attributable profit to Fr923 million. Had.

it not been for the sale of Efthor, a caterer, to Compass, net

profits would have fallen 61 per cent. Pennington, page 21

AN increase in export sales and continuing cost reductions

helped Unipart Group, part of Europe's leading independent

supplier of automotive parts and accessories. lift pre-tain profits to £32.6 million (£28.9 million) in the year to December.

31. The company, 20 per cent owned by Rover and 46 per cent

by its employees and managers, saw sales grow to £8645

million (£774 million). Expansion was boosted by a number

of new contracts with leading companies in the automotive

WATER customer service groups are preparing their attack

over plans by Severn Trent to take over South West Water. In:

evidence to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission,

Ofwat's regional customer service group for the Severn Trent

area will complain that Severn Trent will have to pay a-

premium for South West and possibly curb capital

investment programmes. They will also express fears that their prices could rise, with the current average bill for South

Black workers 'earn less'

BLACK workers' pay is on average 5 per cent less than that of

white workers, a new analysis of pay rates reports today.

Black workers are also more likely to be in lower-paying jobs.

and though unemployment is falling, unemployment among black people is falling much less quickly than for white

people. The TUC report uses information held on

government computers to show a clear pay differential

West at £329, against Severn Trent's £201.

Water bid under fire

Unipart rises to £32m

Rentokil bid tipped to succeed

Rentokil was tipped last night to win the £2.1 billion battie to take control of BET, the business services group, despite a last minute row involving the takeover panel.

BET called on the panel to discount 27 million shares sold by SBC Warburg, Rentokil brokers, to Salomon Brothers last

The takeover panel suggested it would not rule against Warburgs.

Shares in Rentokil, closed up 2.5p at 360p, while BET shares fell Ip to

JKX confident

JKX Oil and Gas, the oil exploration group with in-terests in the former Soviet Union, predicts it will break even in the first quarter of 1996. In its first year as a quoted company, JKX made a pre-tax loss of £2 million.

Halifax deal

The Halifax Building Society yesterday confirmed that it has bought 33 estate agency branches from the Alliance & Leicester for a nominal price probably as low as £1.

Profits fall

Austin Reed, the upmarket clothes retailer, saw pre-tax profits for 1995 fall from E5.8 million to E3.4

It is paying an un-changed total dividend of 6p. Shares rose 5p to 244p.

Anagen better

Anagen, the diagnostics equipment maker, recovered 8p to 55p yesterday after failing 57p to 47p on Wednesday. Pre-tax losses were £1.75 million (£4 million loss), or a 3.8p loss' (8.6p loss) per share.

Rhino down Losses at Rhino Group.

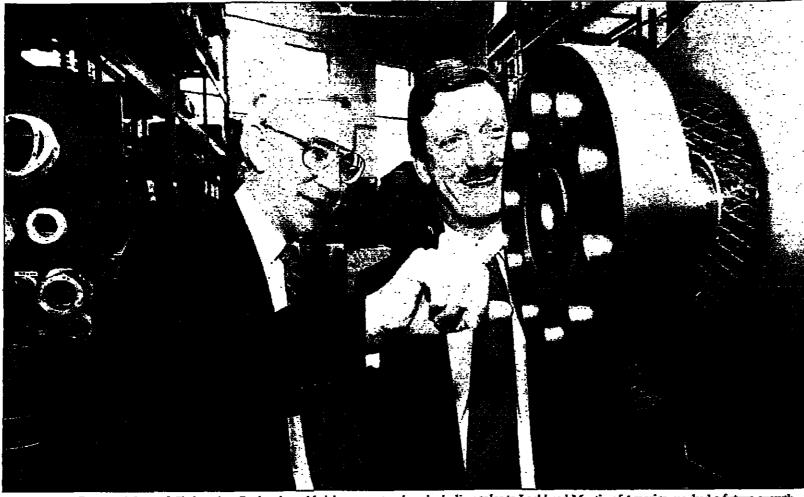
the novelty products and computer games company, sank a further £5.94 million to £8.51 million. Losses per share rose to 4.83p (2.24p).

Lucas deal

Lucas, the aerospace and car parts group, has won a \$20 million contract in South America to supply distributors to Volkswagen do Brazil.

BPB stake up

BPB Industries is paying £21.5 million to take full control of Borgardts, the German manufacturer of special gypsum plasters. BPB has held a 20 per cent stake since 1987.



Christopher Brown, right, and Christopher Cook, who said rising export orders, including sales to Lockheed Martin of America marked a future growth

Seven more sales speed breakup of BR network

By Jonathan Prynn, transport correspondent

THE breakup of the British Rail passenger network gathered pace yesterday when tenders were invited for a

further seven train franchises. The move brings to 20 the franchises sold, or being prepared for sale, by Roger Salmon, the rail franchise director. This represents about 80 per cent of the BR network.

Mr Salmon invited bidders to qualify for the sale of the ScotRail. CrossCountry, Great Eastern. Merseyrail Electrics. Thameslink, West Anglia. Great Northern and Island Line franchises. The sales are

insurance group, has admit-

ted spending more than £33

suits. The group, whose

brands include John Player.

Benson & Hedges, and Silk Cut, faces spiralling legal bills

in connection with 174 cases.

Most of the cases are in

America, which is awash with

class actions from people

claiming that tobacco has

damaged their health. Philip

Morris, the world's biggest

cigarette manufacturer, cur-

expected to be completed from November onwards. The remaining five passenger franchises, including the London Euston-Glasgow

main line route, will be offered for sale within the next two months. The Government hopes that all 25 will be in private hands by next April. The seven latest franchises include the first to involve Labour-controlled Passenger Transport Executives (PTEs). which are bitterly opposed to

held up the sale of urban

routes. The sale of the ScotRail

are costing it £33m a year

By Jon Ashworth

BAT Industries, the tobacco to rently faces 125 such lawsuits annual meeting in London,

million a year defending itself turers fell sharply after last ers. Lord Cairns, chairman of against tobacco-related law-month's decision by Liggett BAT, admitted, under ques-

month's decision by Liggett

Group, the fifth-largest US

tobacco company, to settle two

lawsuits against it out of court.

The move broke the tobacco in-

dustry's traditional solidarity

in defending claims, and seems

set to encourage new actions.

Liggett is estimated to have

spent \$10 million in legal fees

- equivalent to a year's profit.

The scale of legal costs to

in America.

urban and suburban networks around Glasgow. However, a spokesman for Mr Salmon's Office of Passenger Rail Franchising (Opraf) said he was optimistic of being able to "do business" with the Strathelyde executive.

franchise has been strongly

criticised by Strathclyde PTE.

which is responsible for the

Brian Wilson. Labour's railways spokesman, said the breakup of the railways was now no more than "a race against the electoral clock" as the Government struggled to

when directors faced protests

BAT, admitted, under ques-

tioning by Action on Smoking

and Health (ASH), that legal

costs related to tobacco litiga-

tion are running at more than

£33 million. ASH claims that

tobacco-related litigation will

eat into dividends. Lord Cairns said that BAT

expected steady progress in

trading in 1996, even if some

way short of last year's excep-

the Anglo-Scottish sleepers to Glasgow, Edinburgh. Fort William. Aberdeen and Inverness and is expected to be bid for by a management buyout team led by John Ellis, its BAT says tobacco lawsuits managing director.

Richard Branson's Virgin Group is considering a bid for CrossCountry, which operates InterCity services that do not begin or end in London. The franchise has Britain's longest scheduled passenger route, the 702-mile Dundee to Penzance service.

polling day. He said: "For the Tories to continue in this

direction is purely a scorched-

earth policy, before they are

ment faced formidable prob-

lems in selling ScotRail. Strathelyde PTE would "con-

tinue to fight the outrageous

transfer of assets to private

operators by all means at its

ScotRail, which also runs

disposal", he said.

Mr Wilson said the Govern-

turfed out."

Other likely bidders include Stagecoach, the bus group. which is pursuing every franchise that comes up for sale. and the National Express coach company. ☐ Tramtrack Croydon, a con-

Bombardier. sortium Eurorail. CentreWest, Sir Robert McAlpine, Amey Construction and the Royal Bank of Scotland, has been selected as preferred bidder to build and operate a 28-mile tram link between Croydon and Wimbledon in south London.

Acquisitions help David Brown to record high

By Fraser Nelson

ACQUISITIONS helped David Brown, the international engineering supplier, to achieve a record pre-tax profit of £15.3 million (£12.5 million) in the year to February 2.

Sales in industrial gears, the company's main business, soared 63 per cent to £68.7 mil-lion, aided by the purchase of four David Brown gear companies which had been left aside when David Brown was bought by the current management in 1990. The acquisition costs were covered by the £15.5 million raised in a rights issue in May.

Operating profits from con-struction and military vehicles rose by 22 per cent to £8.2 million depite a downturn in military spending.

Industrial pumps delivered the weakest performance of the company's three sectors. with operating profits falling 15 per cent to £2.2 million.

Christopher Cook, joint chief executive, said the downturn came after customers altered orders at a late production stage, leading to over-load in production. But he added that the results were only delayed, and next year's order book was at record levels. Mr Cook said that rising export orders, including sales to Lockheed Martin of America, the world's biggest defence group, marked a

future growth area. A final dividend of 5.2p (4.65p) makes a total of 7.6p



The Charles in The seed

The second of the second of

between black and white workers — and suggests a national minimum wage is the best way of closing the gap. **Linton Park slides**

ADVERSE climatic conditions took a toll on full-year profits at Linton Park, whose activities span tea, coffee and citrus production to edible nuts and cold storage. Reduced profits from the company's agricultural interests and higher interest costs saw pre-tax profits slip to £9.77 million in the year to December 31, down from £12.8 million last time, in spite of turnover ahead to £174.8 million (£164.9 million). A maintained final foreign income dividend of 12.5p gives a total of 18.75p (17.5p) for the year, from earnings of 37.1p (39.0p) a share.

Rugby to build plant

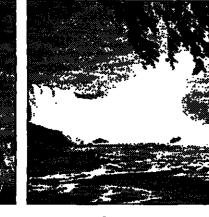
RUGBY CEMENT is to invest more than £100 million in a new cement plant in Rugby, Warwickshire. It is Rugby Cement's largest ever investment and the first new plant of this size in the UK for more than a decade. The plant replaces an existing works but will have increased capacity, producing up to 1.35 million tonnes of cement a year, and will have an improved environmental performance. Amec Construction will carry out the early engineering design of the plant and is the preferred contractor for the project.

SE awaits approval

THE board of the Stock Exchange is to wait for regulatory approval for its proposals for a new order-driven electronic trading system before issuing details in June. The exchange's announcement yesterday came in response to criticism that its second phase of consultation on an order-driven system had been delayed. It had originally said that it hoped to start the second phase next month. The June consultation document will describe in detail the proposed new system, including the regulatory issues and tax issues agreed with the Treasury.

BAT emerged at yesterday's tional 26 per cent growth. Police appeal for help from Travel Promotion

Shares in tobacco manufac- from anti-smoking campaign-



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former staff at Rom Data his wife Elizabeth, at their

THE senior police officer heading the Serious Fraud Office investigation into Rom Data, the West Country computer firm that crashed after receiving £850,000 of taxpayers money, has issued a nationwide appeal for former employees to contact the Devon and Cornwall fraud squad. Detective Inspector Steven

Harrison, who heads the joint SFO inquiry, said yesterday that nearly 400 former Rom Data staff had been interviewed or sent questionnaires. Senior "influential" staff have also given statements. Mr Harrison said: "We

believe there are possibly up to another 100 former Rom Data employees who may be able to help us. We would like them to



Oppenheim: secret report

contact our Truro incident room before we complete the first part of our investigation." In January, police interviewed John Dawson, a former Rom Data director, and

Cork home. Mr Dawson, a former Conservative city councillor in Bath, has a history of bad debts in Britain and the Caribbean. He left the UK in the early 1980s after the collapse of John Dawson Mo-tor (Holdings), with personal and business debts of nearly £2 million. The SFO investigation is looking at other companies in

the South West that received government grants. A secret DTI report outlines how hundreds of companies received tens of millions of pounds in assistance but subsequently collapsed. Phillip Oppenheim, Trade Minister, refuses to publish the report in spite of repeated requests from David Jamieson. Labour MP for Plymouth Devonport.

Australian SE may float itself

IN WHAT looks likely to cause a massive

headache for Australia's regulation experts, the Australian stock exchange is looking at the possibility of floating itself on its own market. The radical proposals, which are to be considered by an internal stock exchange

task force in Sydney next week, come amid a growing feeling among exchange members that its existing mutual status is both outdated and inappropriate. At present, the exchange is owned by 520 stockbroking firms and all revenue earned from company listings is channelled straight back into exchange develop-

ment. Under a new corporatised structure, however, owners of the exchange would be entitled to receive regular dividends. Last year, the exchange earned A\$12 million on the back of assets of A\$136 million. Maurice Newman, the stock exchange FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

chairman, who has long been in favour of demutualising the exchange, says that a float has received considerable interest from the exchange's members. A spokesman for the exchange said

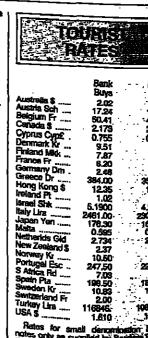
yesterday: "The mutual status of the ASX has served it well but it has gone as far as it can. With 90 per cent of trade going through ten big corporate members. many of whom are ultimately owned offshore, it is anachronistic to talk about single member firms." He said that future ownership of the exchange could include private investors, institutions and even government entities.

Anecdotal evidence certainly seems to suggest a groundswell of support, with one private client broker saying: "A float would allow independent experts to apply a fair value to the stock exchange and deliver a proper return to the members

that have built up the exchange." Another market player adds simply: "On the basis of the growth in market activity which the exchange has experienced over the past few years, you'd have to say that it would seem to be a bloody good

A rather large question mark remains, however, over just how a listed stock exchange could be regulated. The exchange spokesman points out: "We regulate the market, and a float would present a fundamental problem of who regulates the regulator. You can't have a situation where you are regulating your own company. It just wouldn't make sense."

The task force is expected to report formally to the stock exchange board in June, with a float, if approved, by at least 75 per cent of the stock exchange's membership, likely to take place in 1997.



re accused

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7 rises to £32m

hic ander fire

Utility services are goods like any other, subject to the usual laws of economics. Demand calls forth supply. If the risk/reward ratio is inadequate then govern-ment, or philanthropists, will have to step in.

When our Victorian fore-fathers found their streets choked with sewage, their water polluted and an embarrassment of ailing citizens, they built sewers and aqueducts. When science offered the chance to light those streets with gas, and then electricity, companies and concerned citizens stepped in.

And what was the common feature among successful sol-utions? Vertical integration. Monopoly utilities bought the coal, produced the gas or electric-ity, and distributed it to the consumers they billed. Nationalisation increased the integration through consolidation.

In successive privatisations, the Government has sought to

counter this fact of nature. In lieu of tough regulation, it has progressively introduced artificial competition. But what market forces assemble, politicians cannot always keep asunder.

British Gas, privatised as a monopoly, bound like Gulliver by regulation, writhes helplessly as pygmy rivals grow fat. BT talks to Mercury, in an effort to re-connect the overseas links stripped from it at privatisation, to counter the strictures on its business in Britain.

Hanson seeks to re-assemble vertical monopolies in electricity, as the Government steps in to block bids by National Power and PowerGen to do the same. And what is the consequence? Share prices rise and fall on a regulator's whim, or a minister's. Consistency flies out of the window. Utility shares have become about as predictable as the National Lottery.

What credence, then, can we place in the prospectus for Railtrack? Track, signals and trains are a single system. Isambard Kingdom Brunel did not build the Great Western Railway only to offer track to the highest bidder. Only a fool, a management consultant or a minister could imagine that the structure of Britain's railway will remain unchallenged by market forces after privatisation.

On that basis, the sooner the bids start to arrive the better. But if electricity is any guide it is the train operating companies, not Railtrack itself, that will be allowed to lead the return to

Put the bankers in the stocks

THIS column has been afforded a glimpse of Michael Howard's tough new penal code. Traffic offences will in future attract fines of a whole 20p, rising to a full pound if someone is killed. Armed robbers will be jailed overnight; murderers can expect to miss several episodes of Eastenders while banged up.

PENNINGTON

Rattling down convergent tracks



Fantasy? Then explain, if you can, the logic of fining National Westminster, which made £1.7 billion profit last year, a full £75,000 for failing to keep proper track of its customers' assets, a breach of the rules that continued for more than a year after it was brought to the attention of

We try not to expect too much of the clearing banks, but as a bare minimum we ask them to keep track of how much of our money they have - it makes for easier housekeeping and fewer sleepless nights that way. The point is not that the NatWest's failings were largely technical

and did not put accountholders' money at risk. It is that the punishment for the offences is

grotesquely inadequate.

A hit of £75,000 would probably have finished off the average small independent financial adviser. It is a nonsense to impose it on a vast clearer - it took the bank 22 minutes last year to earn that amount. The trick is to ensure that the damage for the mighty NatWest is equal to that for the financially crippled small adviser. Mistakes happen, and no one should be bankrupted for a single fault, but a £75,000 fine is at the top end of those imposed recently by Imro and was intended to emphasise the severity of the case.

Public thrashing of the respon-sible employees and relevant director, although not without some appeal as a spectacle, is probably not on. But bad publicity is almost as effective. The building society ombudsman already has the power to require miscreants to place full-page advertisments in the national

press admitting their sins. Clear-ing banks should be required to do the same, and not just tucked away on the financial pages of the broadsheet heavies but right there in the tabloids, where the maximum number of potential The principle can be extended. Forget the fines; try a dose of public humiliation.

Booking in for Méridien

□ ACCOR was in town yesterday to lay down a firm marker of interest for the posh hotels being sold by Granada. This French outfit is a curious beast, combining hotels, luncheon vouchers and a stake in the British caterer Compass, all topped with £2 billion of debt. It lost out to Forte for the Méridien chain two years ago in spite of heavy financial backing. This

time might turn out even trickier. Granada is putting out its prospectus next month, and Sir

Rocco Forte has his own backers. The price is raised by inclusion of some Forte hotels. The bits that the French want are worth £700 million, assuming Granada will split the package. The latter has suggested that the taxman might favour this, but the market has doubts. Much Gallic amour propre is tied up in a rematch.

Dark thoughts

☐ THE DAY after the latest electric shock, and we are all casting around for reasons. Here is one perhaps conspiracy theory, perhaps genuine. The generators did not endear themselves to the Government during the bloody and indecisive shambles that was the winding-down of the British coal industry. National Power and PowerGen initially preferred to take cheaper foreign imports.

A deal was struck which involved the regional companies taking coal-backed contracts, but only after fractious interchanges between the DTI and the generators. Revenge, best eaten cold, is even tastier laced with political expediency. On this basis the next course, now National Power has had its defences stripped away, is the American purchase of the biggest generator.

Power shift: John Baker, right, the chairman of National Power, replaced Bernard Taylor as chairman of Medeva at the pharmaceutical company's annual general meeting yesterday

Ibstock aims high with £160m deal for Redland Bricks

IBSTOCK, the buildings materials group, is set to become the biggest brickmaker in the United Kingdom after agreeing to buy Redland Bricks for £160 million. The move will give Ibstock around 35 per cent of the market, putting it ahead of Hanson, the current

Ibstock is funding the deal with a rights issue that will raise £100 million via a two for three issue, with shares priced at 55p. The deal still has a significant hurdle to overcome in satisfying the Office of Fair Trading on competition grounds. The company's cautious attitude to this is reflected in the structure of the rights issue, allowing shareholders money to be repaid if the

tive, said: "We want to be able to outgun Hanson." He called it an "exciting and challenging deal". The opportunity to acquire Redland Brick comes in the wake of Redland's restructuring. It is Ibstock's second major acquisition - last year it bought Tarmac's brick busisses for E71 million.

Redland Bricks showed an operating profit of £8.9 million last year. The deal will enhance Ibstock's geographical coverage of the market. Mr Maclellan said that

there were also opportunities to make substantial cost savings and rationalise to improve efficiency, which may mean closure of some older brick factories over time and job losses. No specific plans will be outlined until the OFT makes its attitude clear.

such good progress, despite little improvement in the hous-

ing market and in the face of

the worst retailing weather

Since the half year, two new

stores have been opened. Dur-

ing the rest of the year, the

group plans to open a further

conditions for many years."

The Tarmac acquisition last year helped to lift Ibstock's pre-tax profits by 83 per cent. to £26.1 million, on turnover ahead 19 per cent to £250 million. Earnings per share rose by 80 per cent, to 6.67p, and the total dividend for the year is 20.

The current financial year has made a less impressive start. Ibstock says that demand for building products is slower. Its US business was also hard-hit by had weather, while the Forest Products division, which saw profits double last year, is being squeezed by the falling price of wood pulp.

These factors will hit firsthalf profits but the group is "cautiously optimistic" that demand for bricks is set to improve. Shares in Ibstock closed up 1112p at 8512.

Etam warning follows slump | Trinity Holdings' shares hit

By Clare Stewart

ETAM, the high-street fashion retailer, continues to struggle as profits slumped and the outlook for 1996 looks bleak. After three profit warnings and a boardroom clear-out in 1995, pre-tax profits for the year to January 31 plummeted to £152,000 (£10.6 million). Sales at the group, which includes the Snob and Tammy
Girl outlets, have not improved and 164p.

the group is giving warning that firsthalf operating losses are set to rise. Etam says it is looking to rebuild margins but the full effect is not expected to be seen in the balance sheet until 1997. It is paying a final dividend of 0.75p (5.75p), making a total for the year of 1.25p (7.7p). The

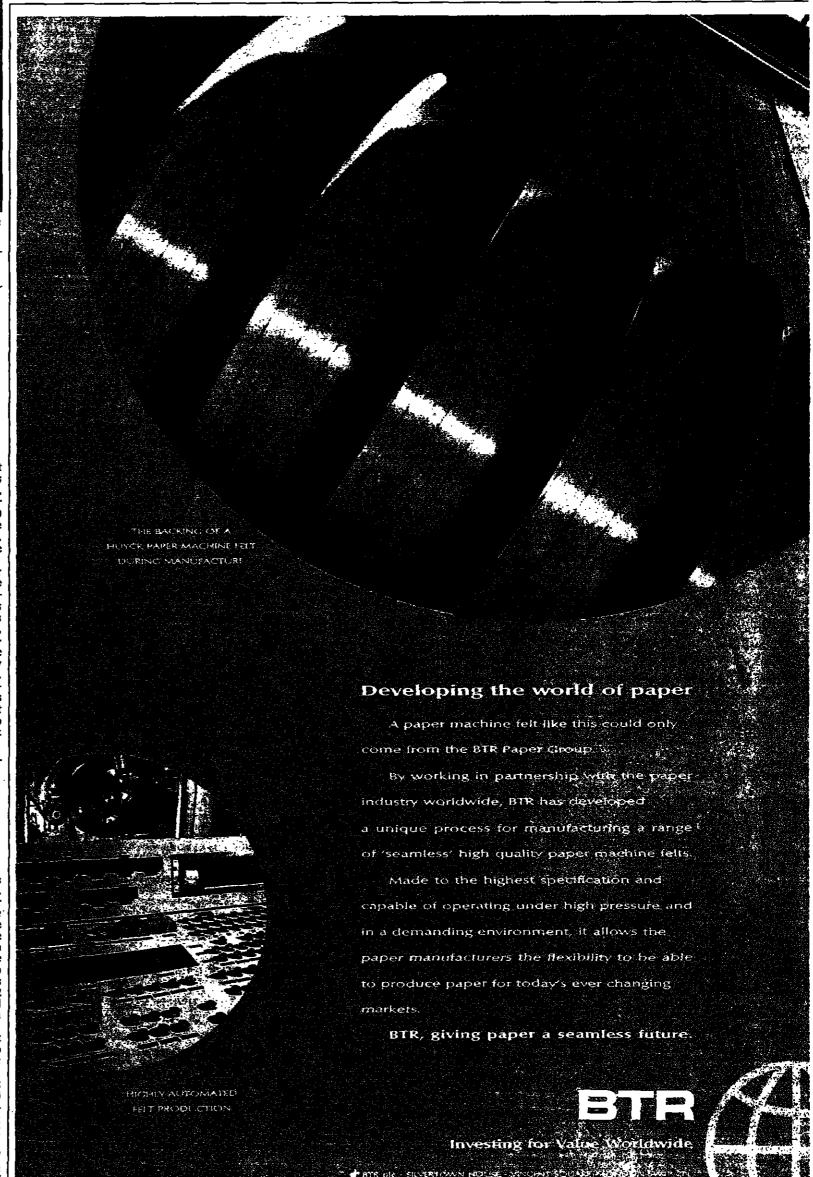
shares closed 1p lower at cent increase in profits to £16 million for 164p. Tempus, page 28 the year ending January 1996. The total

SHARES in Trinity Holdings, the specialist vehicle maker, tumbled 19p to 402p as the company cautioned about a slowdown in the first half of its new financial year. The warning that profits would be skewed to the second half of 1996-97 came as the fire-engine-to-refuse collector company announced a 22 per cent increase in profits to £16 million for

By Alasdair Murray dividend rises 15 per cent to 8.2p. A final of 5.6p is payable on July 31. Vanni Treves, the chairman, said slower sales in Malaysia and restructuring in its airport vehicle division, after the acquisition of two companies,

would dampen profits growth in the first half. But he was more bullish

about prospects for the year as a whole, pointing to a record order book.



Kingfisher chief nears £1m a year

Ian Madellan chief execu-

SIR Geoffrey Mulcahy, chief executive of Kingfisher, nearly rejoined the £1 million a year club last year with a 5 per cent jump in total pay to £999,000 in

the year to February 3.
Sir Geoffrey and Jim
Hodkinson, chief executive of B&Q, Kingfisher's from three-year contracts to two-year contracts." According to the annual

accounts, the rise in Sir Geoffrey's total pay was mainly due to £226,000 naid under the group's long term bonus scheme. Last year, he waived his right to £178,306. Kingfisher recently announced a 27 per cent rise in pre-tax profits, to £312 million, in spite of a 33 per cent drop

in profits from B&Q. Sir Geoffrey's pay in the previous year was £949,000. down from £131 million in the year to January 3, 1994.

DFS beats housing gloom with 16% rise

By SARAH BAGNALL

four, including its first stores in London and the South East. Sir Graham said: "The factor DFS, the cash-rich furniture group, shrugged off the ill effects of a lacklustre housing that dictates our performance market and abysmal weather is the volume of people. The with a 16 per cent leap in pretax profits to £15.1 million in number of chimney pots in the the six months to January 27.
Sir Graham Kirkham, founder and executive chair-South East is far greater than anywhere else and there are more of the type of people who shop in our stores." He sees man, said the company "conpotential for more than 12 tinues to perform ex-ceptionally well, again achieving record profits in a intends to open the first seven difficult trading environas quickly as possible. ment". Sales from the group's 32 stores rose 19:1 per cent to 587.7 million; like-for-like

Sir Graham is upbeat about prospects. "I look forward to reporting continuing growth sales advanced 8.6 per cent. Sir Graham said: "I am and success," he said. The group ended the first particularly pleased that we have been able to maintain

half with cash balances of £23 million, after capital expenditure of £4.9 million and last November's special dividend of ElO.4 million.

The dividend was lifted 17 per cent to 3.1p and is payable on June 20 out of earnings of 9.59p a share, up from 8.27p last time. The shares fell 3p to

CITY speculators were trying desperately to repair the damage done to their profit and loss accounts caused by the

Government's decision to block the two power bids earlier this week. One late running story suggested that Southern Company, the US utility, is poised to launch is proposed bid for National Power and will stage a dawn raid at the start of business this morning. It is a move that would help the speculators out of a hole, but smacked more of wishful thinking. The power generators continued to lose ground, with National Power down another 8p at 556p, after briefly touching 534p, and PowerGen 17p off at 555p.

Only last week, there was talk that Southern Company was prepared to bid upwards of 700o a share for National Power, valuing the company at more than ES billion. But that was before the Government stepped in to block its bid for Southern Electric, up Ilp at 835p, and PowerGen's offer for Midlands Electricity. 17p dearer at 388p. Elsewhere, National Grid

eased 3120 to 1980 amid claims that Hanson may be looking to dispose of its 12 per cent stake which it acquired along with Eastern Group. It is estimated the sale could raise up to £500 million.

Brokers say that prices among the power generators are likely to remain volatile in the short term, but suggest that falls among the distributors have been overdone. Among the other regional electricity companies, gains were recorded in East Midlands, 11p to 629p, London, 15p to 822p, Seeboard, 12p to 550p. and Yorkshire. Sp stronger to 834p.

The rest of the equity market showed signs of halting the slide of the past few days with the help of the latest retail sales numbers, which offered hope that there may still be scope for another cut in interest rates. It enabled the FT-SE 100 index to claw back a near 15-point deficit, to finish 1.7 points up on the day at 3,819.3. shares. This was in spite of another sharp fall for the Dow Jones average in early trading on Wall Street.

A first-quarter setback ac-companied by a profits warning left ICI nursing a fall of 24p at 926p. Pre-tax profits were down almost 10 per cent

СОСОЛ Ш 2016-1025 Jul

ROBUSTA COFFEE (5)



Wickes shares fell 9p after a profits warning

at £223 million, reflecting a slowdown in industrial chemicals where volumes in Europe, alone, fell by o per cent. Hopes that the group would use its spare cash to pay a special dividend or initiate a share buy-back were dashed.

Ibstock, the brickmaker, jumped 1112p to 85p after

market, climbing 27p to 761p. ABN Amro Hoare Govett, the announcing plans to buy Redland's brick-making operation broker, met the company ear-Kleinwort Benson, the broker, has moved its recommendation on Allied Domecq from a "self" to a "hold". It says a further

deterioration in profitability will be needed before the much talked

of break-up is undertaken. Kleinwort says that without the benefit

of a bid the break-up value would between 650p and 700p a share.

for £155 million. To help to fund the deal lbstock is proposing a two-for-three rights issue to raise £100 million. The full-year figures from Ubstock showed pre-tax profits climbing \$3 per cent to £26.1 million. accompanied by a rise of one-

third in the payout to 2p. The best gain on the day was seen in Chiroscience, up 11712p at 400p, after the company gave a briefing to bro-

COMMODITIES

CRUDE OILS (\$/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical 20.50
Brent IS day (Jun) 20.00
Brent IS day (Jun) 19.15
W Texas Intermediate (Jun) 22.40
W Texas Intermediate (Jun) 20.95

lier this week and reckons the shares are attractive. There was further speculative buying of Thorn EMI,

kers. The company told them

it had been developing a

regarded as superior to that of

its rivals, such as British

Biotechnology's Marimastat.

British Biotech added a fur-

Laporte was also a firm

ther 48p at £28.08.

cancer treatment which

with the price adding another 280 at £IS.63 as bid talk persisted. Heavy turnover was again recorded in Ladbroke, the takeover favourite, with 16 million shares traded. The price eased 212p to 203p.

First-time dealings in Millenium & Copthorne Ho-

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

CHIROSCIENCE: PROSPECTS FOR PREATMENT	SHARES LEAP ON CANCER ASS
I REALMER!	-30
Chiroscience	25
•	FT-SE all-share index (rebased)
ليسر	151
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , 	ug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr

closed ip lighter at 203p.

Wickes, the DIY and builders' supplies retailer, fell 9p to 130p after isuing a profits warning. Harry Sweetbaum, chairman, told shareholders at the annual meeting that first-half profits would fall significantly short of last year's level following bad weather in the first quarter. Business was also being hit by the lack of improvement in the housing market.

Austin Reed firmed 5p to 244p despite the setback for profits last year, which had been widely anticipated. Colin Evans, chief executive, said sales of menswear had risen 8 per cent during the first quarier of the current year.

Elsewhere on the high street, full-year figures from Etam were every bit as bad as feared, with pre-tax profits plunging from £10.67 million to £152,000. The dividend was also slashed. The shares slipped lp to 164p.

□ GILT-EDGED: Prices re-

covered from a hesitant start with the help of support from overseas investors. Demand was focused at the shorter end of the market, prompting a steepening of the yield curve. In the futures pit. the June series of the long gilt touched

£1062132 before ending the

session £3a higher at £10612 as

the total number of contracts completed reached 56,000. In longs treasury 8 per cent 2015 could only manage a gain of £316 at £4778, while at the shorter end treasury 8 per cent □ NEW YORK: The stronger dollar and a desire for fast growth prompted selling of multinationals and an interest in smaller companies on Wall Street. By midday the pressure on the Dow Jones industrial

average saw it 29.62 points lower at 5,524.28.

		•	1
	STOCK MARKET		New York (midday): Dow lones 5524.28 (-29.62) S&P Composite 648.39 (-1.78)
			Tokyo: Nikkei Average
~		. •	Hong Kong: Hang Seng
Snec	ulators sma	rting	Amsterdam: EOE Index 551.33 (-2.55)
4			Sydney:
oftor	power bid v	otage	Frankfurt: DAX 2532-41 (-5.85)
aitti	hower pin v	CIUCS	Singapore: Straits 2384.75 (+3.57)
Y speculators were trying perately to repair the dam-	Trade Trade	tels got off to a promising start following a placing at 278p. In	Brussels: General 9111,80 (+15.83)
done to their profit and accounts caused by the	TUGC	early trading the shares touched 329p before ending	Paris: CAC-40 2116.35 (-5.75)
ernment's decision to k the two power bids	8 Trade	the session at their best of the day with a rise of 54p at 332p.	Zurich: SKA Gen 791.70 (-1.90)
ier this week. ne late running story sug-	wickes Wickes	Phytopharm also made an encouraging debut following a	London: FT 30
ed that Southern Com- y, the US utility, is poised	Trade Trade	placing at 175p. At their best the shares touched 185p before	FT-SE Mid 250
unch is proposed bid for onal Power and will stage	Iracle snooth Masonry Smooth Masonry	ending 3p dearer at 178p. Rentokil hardened 212p to	FT-SE Eurotrack 100 1684.54 (+0.83) FT A All-Share 1914.27 (+2.02)
awn raid at the start of ness this morning. It is a		360p as the odds on it winning control of BET continued to	FT Non Financials 2047.15 (+1.83) FT Fixed interest
e that would help the ulators out of a hole, but	Workes Wickes Workes	shorten. Despite the backing of a number of powerful	SEAQ Volume
cked more of wishful king. The power genera-	Trade Trade Trade	institutions, brokers take the view that Rentokil's £2.1 bil-	USM (Datastrm)
continued to lose ground,	and Masonry stated Masonry sutured Mason Smooth Mas	lion offer will be accepted by most shareholders. BET	Exchange Index 84.3 (+0.3) Bank of England official close (4pm)
National Power down her 8p at 556p, after		closed lp lighter at 203p.	£:ECU 1.2084

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£:SDR

RECENTIS	ŞHE	S 🛌
Active Imaging	131	. – 2
Advent VCT	95	
British Smaller Co's	95	
Cambridge Wir NV	290	- 13
Cap for Co's VCT (100		
Cardcast (85)	83	- 2
Cliveden (73)	86	+ <u>i</u>
Dicom Group (270)	330	
Easynet Group (100)	101	+ 1
F1 Group (235)	334	+ 20
Gartmore VCT	96	
Guinness Flight VCT	95	
Hill Smi UK Emg Co		
Hurlingham Props	70	
ILP Group (75)	97	- 3
Millenium & Cop	332	
Orange (205)	2301:	+ 15
Pacific Horizon Wts	17	
Pennine AIM VCT	95	
Phytopharm	178	•
Quester VCT	95	
Raphael Zorn (32)	35	
Rebus	105	- 1
Romtec	76	+ 3
Silver Shield (3)	314	
Taverners Trust Uts	517	- 1
Templeton C&E Euro	26	
-		

RIGHTS ISSUES

,	
Barratt Dev n/p (200) 70	-
Bernrose n/p (325) 65	
Benson Group n/p (40) 1'.	
Cap Reg 675% ULS n/p 5	
Estates & Gen n/p (60) 8	
Flare n/p (150) 8	
Guinness Peat n/p (30) 64:	
Indi Control n/p (90) 23	+
Tepnel Life n.:p (40) 28	+
Tottenham Hornin 40	

MAJOR CHANGES

١.	
1	RISES:
	Frost Group 144p (~17p)
٠١	Racal Elect 340p (-12c)
1	Cortecs 399p (+11p)
1	541.0
- 1	FALLS;
	Filtronic Com
ı	ICI
1	Br Airways 540p (-11c;
	Closing Prices Page 31
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TEMPUS

Room at the top

Ibstock was dancing on the top of the pile yesterday, claiming that it was bigger than anyone and could now outgun Hanson. Fortunately for Ibstock, the share market paid no attention to the boast. Had anyone believed that the company was about to lob a few bricks through Hanson's windows, investors would have fled in panic. Recovery in brick prices has been a painstaking process and major producers voluntarily shut down kilns last winter in a sluggish housebuilding market.

Ibstock has no intention of picking a fight with Hanson. On the contrary, the City is assuming that future relations between the two companies, which together will control some 70 per cent of the UK market, could be

HAVING amassed a huge mound of bricks. producers need to run plant at high rates of and sales staff. Ibstock will spend money finetuning production, closing a few kilns while upgrading others to tweak up its margins. With such large market shares, a duopoly of Hanson and Ibstock will find it easy to tailor production to market demand. In some areas, Ibstock could control almost half the brick

The share market wants to believe that the enlarged lbstock will not arouse the concern of the Office of Fair Trading. Ibstock's rights issue is structured to allow the money to be repaid, but the company knows the OFT's mind well, having consulted the regulator over the purchase of the Tarmac bricks business last year. Ibstock may have to shed a few more kilns, but that would not spoil its victory.

In a business dogged by high fixed costs.

ICI

SUCH a head of steam was built up over share buybacks on Wednesday that ICI shares had only one way to go on yesterday's quarter-ly figures. The chemical company did not oblige investors expecting a dollop of extra cash from the company and the share price reversed all of the previous day's gains.

Of more importance was the news that the company expects the second quarter to continue the downward trend of the first three months. during which ICI's industrial chemicals business suffered a sharp fall in volumes. Most of the bad news came from Europe, where volumes fell 9 per cent in the first quarter. explaining the lag in reducing

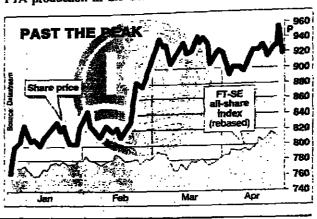
ICI confidently predicts a 2 per cent growth in its volumes

compared with last year's solid 3 per cent. However, the setback in the first quarter and slow advance in the second suggests a brisk pace will be needed in the rest of

It is therefore scarcely surprising that ICI is holding back a £150 million investment in expanding PTA production in the UK.

ICI has invested heavily in the Far East, where production of the chemical, used to make polyester fibre, is widely reckoned to be in surplus and manufacturers struggle to make money. ICI

has locked in a buyer for production at its second plant in Taiwan, but in the short term profits in this business could be squeezed.



Trinity Holdings

SPECIALIST vehicle-maker Trinity Holdings rode a boom in bus building to record profits last year. Although that market has peaked, Trinity is successfully building alternative businesses that will keep the company on the growth path.

Trinity shares took a turnble yesterday, after the company's cautious words about the outlook for the first half. But the problems outlined yesterday appear short-term. The integration of the new airport businesses will result in a charge this year but all three are profitable and the restructuring will place Trinny in a suong posicin growing market.

Trinity is also continuing to face teething problems with its Malaysian busbuilding business. In the immediate future it will generate lower margins than the mature operations in the UK enable Trinity to take advantages of the growing opportunities elsewhere in the region. The shares are not cheap. sitting on a forward price/earnings ratio of almost 16 times. But Trinity deserves its premium rating

But a steady penetration of

the Malaysian market will

and the shares should continue their journey upwards. Etam

EXPERIENCED retailers know that all fashions come back to haunt us, evidenced by the recycled 1970s gear that fills the shops today. Unfortunately, for Etam, there just is not enough time to wait for ra-ra skirts and other

into iashion. Etam is doing its level best to reinvent itself, widening its market to include an older female customer prepared to pay a higher price. The shops used to rely on discounting to shift short lines of cheap fash-

1980s ephemera to come back

ly last a season. In the 1980s, retailers could almost dip their hands in customers' pockets to relieve them of surplus cash but consumers today are less malleable. Yesterday's figures gave

little evidence that Etam has found its way. A strategy based on less discounting has left it with more unsold stock and losses in the first half will increase. Having widened its target market. Etam is competing head-on-with Next and Dorothy Perkins, two retailers that are cutting a swathe down the high street and even posing a challenge to Marks & Spencer. Fashion retailing is becoming a winner takes all business with retailers adopting price positions and then fitting the clothes to the price. In such : game, even the successful find it difficult to make money. Etam has its work cut out to find a niche in this market and even bidders

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	LOW	Seti	Vol
FT-SE 100 Previous open laterest 64×15	Jun 96 Sep 46	3821.0	3839.0	3516.0	3835.0 3851.0	100% Ú
FT-SE 250 Previous open Interest: 4121	Jun 96 Sep 96				4990.0	a 8
Three Month Sterling Previous open Interest: 365547	Jun 46 Sep 46 Dec 46	45.95 43.82 43.44	43.50 43.50 44.00	43.95 43.74 43.42	93.58 93.58 93.58	14838 22376 48540
Three Month Euro Yen	Sep 96	98486	98.86	98.86	99.87]9
	Dec 96	98,55	98.57	98.54	98.57	1344
Three Mth Euro DM	Јип 90	96.84	96.85	95.83	96.84	195A5
Previous open interest: 1088501	Ѕер 96	96.84	95.86	96.83	Un.84	19211
Long Gilt	նոն 🕫 👕	105-31	106-21	105-29	100-16	5596)
Previous open interest: 113817	Տոն 🗗 —	104-30	104-30	104-30	103-16	I
Japanese Govmt Bond	Juл 96	117.90	117.92	1/7.56	717.65	4239
	Sep 96	116.80	116.80	116.53	116.54	657
German Gov Bd Bund	Jun 96	97.00	47.13	96,00	96,96	125728
Previous open Interest: 197940	Sep 96	95.20	90.20	96,00	95,06	1643
Three month ECU	Jun %	95.81	95.82	95.8 2	95.82	(239
Previous open interest: 22653	Sep %		95.83	45.81	95.83	616
Euro Swiss Franc	Лип Ф	98.18	99.21	48.16	48.19	3523
Previous open Interest: 54563	Sep %	98.12	98.18	48.12	98.16	4309
Italian Governt Bond	Jun 96	114.00	114.64	114.00	114.17	21062
Previous open Interest: 61888	Sep 96	113.70	113.70	113.70	113.51	135

Japonese Govini Doin	ու յուր Վ			116.53	117,65	4239 657		
German Gov Bd Bun Previous open Interest: 1979				96,00	96.96 95.06	125728 1043		
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 2265	Jun 94 3 Sep 96		95.87 95.83	45.8 2 45.81	95.82 95.83	(239 616		
Euro Swiss Franc Previous open Interest: 5-156	Jun 9e 3 Sep 9e			48.16 48.12	48.19 98.16	3523 4340		
Italian Governt Bond Previous open Interest: 6188	Jun 96 8 Sep 96			114.00 113.70	114.17 113.51	21062 135		
MONEY RATES (%)								
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GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Low: \$389.80-390.30 AM: \$390.35 Platinum: \$403.85 (£267.10) Silver: \$5.38 (£3.555) Patladiam: \$134.75 (£89.10)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

d Rates for April 25	Range	Close	i month	3 month
sterdam	2.5815-2.5891	2.58bJ-2.589t	'r-ipr	21-207
ıssels	47.29-47.58	47,49-47,53	12 -9 01	35-30pr
enhagen	8.8835-8.9224	8,9058-8,9166	i –l pr	5'-4'pr
b][n	0.9674-0.9704	0.9685-0.9700	10-7pr	25-20pr
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יייייייייייייייייייייייייייייייייייייי	235_38-236.90	236.32-236.61	20.45	******
drid.,	191.17-191.98	191.58-191.77	24-34ds	67-84ds
Q7)	2317.3-2363.0	2359.2-2361.4	t-8ds	17-19ds
nifesi	2,0596-2,0659	2.0616-2.0636	0.24-0,15pr	0.44-0.33pr
v York	1.5104-1.5134	1.5109-1.5118	0.00+0.05pt	0.21 O.18pr
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S	7.7850-7.8194	7.8030-7.8092	(1-1 pr	4' ~4 pr
kholm	10.18t-10.294	10.255-10.277	والماحا	1×1×15
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DOLLAR RATES

Australia
Austria 10.75-10.77
Belgium (Com)
Canada
Contact
Denmark 5,9000-5,5050
France 5.1690-5.1720
Germany 1.5502-1.5305
Hong Kong
Ireland 1.55%-1.5600
Italy 1561.00-1564.00
Japan
Malaysia
Notherlands
Netherlands 1.7120-1.7135
Norway 6.5678-6.5753
Portugal 156.56-156.66
Singapore 1.4080-1.4090
Spain
Sweden 6.8037-6.8137
Switzerland 1,2374-1,2384
The state of the s

Spain	. 126.92-136.97 6.9032-6.9137
Switzerland	
Argentina peso"	. 1.5105-3.5131
Australia dollar Bahrain dinar Brazil resi	. 0 5:40-0.5760 . 1.4762-1.4803
China yuan Cyprus pound Finland markka Greece drachma	. 0.7080-0,7180 . 7.2475-7.3635
Hong Kong dollar India rupee Indonesia rupiah	1.6850-11.6934
Malaysia ringgit New Zealand dollar	0.4490-0.4590 3.7820-3,7858 2.2158-2 2197
Pakistan rupee Saudi Arabia riyai Singapore dollar	. 2.1271-2.1298
S Africa rand (com) U A E dirham Barciays Bank GTS * U	5.4950-5 6190
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FT-SE VOLUMES

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31	2,400	Land Secs	1.400
ASDA Gp	5,200	Legal & Gn	951
Abbey No	3,600	Licyds TSB	8.400
Allied Dorp	1.700	Marks Spr	1,900
Arkos	938	NatWst Bk	2400
Anyll Gp	440	Nat Grid	4.400
AB Foods	431		12,000
BAA	1,600	7&0	788
BAT Inds	7.700	Реалзол	334
BOC	2,100	Plikington	3,400
BP	9,500	PowerGen	3,700
BSKVB	1,900	Prudential	3,700
BTR	7,600	REXAM	1,900
BT	3,900	RMC	294
Bk of Scot	2.900	RTZ	2600
Barclavs	3,800	Rank One	5,200
Bass	470		1.500
Biue Circle	2400	Reckitt Col Rectiand	1,500 2,700
Boots	745	Reed Inti	400
BAe	782	Penrokii	1,600
BA	4,100	Politoni	6,400
Brit Gas	8,100	Reuters	2.700
Brit Steel		Rolls Royce	5,800
	6.300	Royal Ins	304
Burmah Çsti		Ryl Bk Scot	433
Burton	4,300	Sainsbury	7.500
Cobie Wire	2,700	Schroders	43
Cadbury	1,900	Scot & New	821
Cariton Cms		Scot Power	2,200
Cm Union	1.300	Svm Trent	755
Cookson	2,400	Shell Trans	4,900
Courtaulds	261	Siebe	1,300
Dixons	207	SmKI Beh	1,800
Enterpr Oll	1,700	Smith Nph	3,800
For & Col IT	1,600	Smiths Inds	232
GKN	544	Sthern Elec	3,300
GRE	3.200	Std Chartd	1.200
GUS	3,100	Sun Alince	2,000
Gert Acc	585	TI Gp	347
Gen Elec	5.000	Tate & Lyle	ממתו
Giano Well	6,900	Tesco	2.800
Granada	2,600	Thames W	2.300
rand Met	5,800	Thm EMI	978
Steenalis	801	Tomkins	6,100
Guinness	3,100	Unliever	2.500
HSBC	2.000	United Utils	2,400
	9,300	Vollatone	5,900
C1	3.800	Whithread	719
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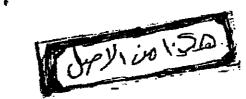
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1 (4 (n/e) 197 (+)) WHITE SUGAR (FOB) IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd) GAS OIL May 172.75-73.00 Aug Jun 168.50-68.75 Sep Jul 166.00-65.25 . 333.0-31.5 BRENT (6.00pm) Jun 19.99-20.00 Jul 19.12-19.14 Aug 18.55 SLR Sep 17.93 6112 Oct 17.64-17.75 Vol: 43097 Index 1452 +7 LONDON METAL EXCHANGE (Official) (Volume prev 6=3/ Copper Gde A (\$/tonne) _____ Lead (\$/tonne) ____ Zine Spec Hi Gde (\$/tonne) ____ Tin (\$/tonne) ____ Aluminium Hi Gde (\$/tonne) Vot 1634275 LIFE OPTIONS Calls Pub Series Jul Oct Jan Jul Oct Jan Cally Pus Series Jul Oct Jan Jul Oct Jan

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Long run south for savers

KEN CULLEY, the defen-der-in-chief of building so-ciety mutuality, lays claim to the ultimate carpethagging brag. The Portman, the Top 20 building society, recently opened ac-counts for a claustro-phobic carload of "savers" who had driven doggedly from Glasgow to their nearest branch in

With their fingers crossed all the way, the passengers are convinced that the Portman is the next society to be taken over. According to Ken: "They should have built Hadrian's Wall higher."

Loyalty pays

LOYAL Railtrack chairman Bob Horton is a figurehead for old-fashioned values. Not surprising then that Simmons & Simmons. the law firm came through Railtrack's beauty parade process with the lion's share of the advisory work on the flotation. It was, if you remember, Simmons & Simmons who negotiated Horton's £1.53 million pay-off when he was booted out of the top job at BP in 1992.

Each-way bet

THE oldest and second largest investment trust. Foreign & Colonial is waving both political colours in its run up to the forthcoming election. The controversial matter over the company's £25,000 donation to the Conservative Party - double the usual donătion this year due to the election -- will be put to the vote at today's AGM. However, Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer, has been invited to speak at F&C's Need for Growth in Emerging Markets conference next month.



"I think we're with the Woolwich, but we might be with the Pru"

THE cost-cutting BBC has caused a storm over its decision to raise the price of a cuppa from 14p to 20p. From May 6, food and drink prices rise 12 per cent, inciting staff to write irate letters to the staff magazine Ariel. What a palayer, when the BBC has one of the best value watering holes in town.

Training daze

STAFF at NFU Mutual Insurance Society are pol-ishing their office windows in anticipation of the Scottish football squad's arrival in their backyard this summer. Scotland's manager Craig Brown snapped up the offer to use Strafford upon Avon insurers' magnificent sports facilities, made by Rangers supporter and NFU Mutual managing director, Andrew Young who emphasises that the invasion will not cost his policyholders a thing.

Return trip

A BUMPY ride for RBS Advanta, the Edinburgh credit card company, which recently opened a While London office. packing, planning manager Mark Austin dropped his airline ticket into his office equipment, which was to go by road. Red-faced Austin was at the airport before realising his gaffe. He returned to the office, rescued his ticket from the removal van, and dashed back to the airport

MORAG PRESTON



Caring environment in the battle to sell more policies, private health insurers like BUPA have forged links with many NHS-run hospitals

Battle to spread benefits of private healthcare hots up

Marianne Curphey looks at progress in the fight ance may be a £2 billion industry but to change perceptions about medical protection for the insurers, too many prospective clients still

regard it as an unglamorous preserve of the wealthy.

As pressure on the health service grows, insurers believe that more people will turn to private cover to obtain speedy or convenient treatment from doctors they trust. They also believe it offers lucrative opportunities to turn a profit: Norwich Union has broken into the black after entering the market, and Legal and General is poised to enter.

Already II per cent of Britons have their own healthcare cover, even though they can still obtain free National Health Service treatment.

Insurers see young people as the key to growth. Until now, this group has been reluctant to take out medical protection, believing they are unlikely to need major surgery until middle age. However, BUPA and PPP, the two largest insurers, are attempting to change these perceptions, using loyalty schemes and new products aimed at families, women and active young people.

Faced with an increasingly competitive market and an influx of foreign insurers trying to undercut premiums, Britain's 25 healthcare insurers are keen to take a share of the estimated 4 per cent in-crease in policyholders over

the next few years. BUPA, with an estimated 46 per cent share, dominates the market, followed by PPP with 28 per cent. William Laing, director of the healthcare market analysts Laing & Buisson, says private medical insurance (PMI) used to be a rapidly growing sector, but slowed early in the 1990s recession and is only now starting to recover.

Mr Laing says BUPA and PPP's main competition has come from Norwich Union, which put substantial investment into its products to build a market share of around 9 per

cent from scratch. WPA is the next largest PMI provider, with 4 per cent; the rest of the market is divided among

Mr Laing believes that far from seeing consolidation, the industry will become ever more fragmented as more and more general insurers see the opportunity in selling PMI and bring out their own products.Competition is eroding BUPA's premier position and during the recession it lost many of its corporate clients as firms cut staff perks to reduce costs. Its loyalty scheme, launched this week, aims to encourage customers to renew their policies every year, and offers incentives to anyone who joins a BUPA-approved

much smaller players.

Unlike general insurance, where premiums have fallen by up to 15 per cent in the last few years and competition is so herce that some underwriters have been selling unprofitable business, medical insurance is still seen as a lucrative area with room for expansion. However, like geninsurance, companies selling PM1 tend to spend money acquiring new busi-

health club.

ness and only make money when customers renew - their loyalty is essential.
Unlike NHS provision, pri-

vate medical insurance only pays for acute conditions that can be cured by an operation or short-term course of treatment. An estimated 11 per cent of the population has paid-for cover, but as the percentage of elderly in the population rises by an estimated 50 per cent within the next 35 years. demand will grow.

Well over half of all medical insurance is sold direct by sales agents or through advertising, and since health insurance premiums in the UK are now worth about £1.5 billion annually, and sales commission is typically 10 per cent of the yearly premium, agents can make a lot of money selling such products.

PMI is currently unregulated. That may soon change. The market is being investigated by the Office of Fair Trading, which is concerned that exclusion clauses can leave customers with far less cover than they imagined. It is also examining the practice of "churning", whereby rival insurers persuade customers to



include various insurance

present competitors. In the

early days the RAC approved

policies provided a quality

product at a price below the

then motor tariff and in the

1960s and 1970s a safe refuge

when the cut-price insurers

collapsed. (Remember the Fire

Auto & Marine and the Vehi-

Beddall Bradford was acquired by the RAC in 1984.
Yours faithfully,
J. A. G. STONEHOUSE

(formerly chief executive

Beddali Bradford & Co Ltd),

Eim Lodge, 43 Upper Tilehouse Street,

Hitchin, Hertfordshire.

This precedes most of the

companies.

cle & General?)

Peter Owen, left, of PPP, and Peter Jacobs, of BUPA

switch insurers, even though it might be in the customer's best interest to stay put. The OFT is due to make its findings public next month.

BUPA has one million personal customers and two million more clients under corporate schemes. It operates 29 hospitals in the UK and has links with 800 more, including NHS institutions.

Unlike PPP, which is about to float, BUPA says it is committed to keeping its provident status. Peter Jacobs, BUPA's chief executive, sees no reason to bring BUPA to the stock market "in the next five years". He said: "We do not need extra capital and the company is financially sound. We have reserves of £565 million and the advantage of being a provident institution is that the money we make can be reinvested in healthcare."

PPP, meanwhile, recognises

that the PMI market is "fiercely competitive". Having supported the relaunch of its brand with prime-time television advertising, PPP says it now has ambitions to grow its market share. Rather than introduce a loyalty scheme similar to BUPA's, it is concentrating on promoting the benefits of its 24-hour health line, which is staffed by nurses who can advise policyholders on medical matters. It is also marketing its healthcare product to active young people who do not need major surgery but who often need physiotherapy for sports injuries.

BUPA's loyalty scheme involves a system of credits for customers who renew policies each year. These credits, which have no monetary value, can be exchanged for healthcare benefits. Policies are cancelled if the policyholder misses a premium or stops the plan.

BUPA's other new move is to encourage policyholders to

The companies going for gold at the Olympics

Ian Brodie explains why Coca-Cola will spend \$650 million on the games

The Olympic Torch Relay will tomorrow embark on an 84-day run across America. The Coca-Cola Company and other sponsors are confident the runners' path is paved with

For although opening ceremonies for the Atlanta Olympics do not begin until July 19, the International Olympic Committee is already working closely with its corporate patrons. The flow of private money is now so important that the IOC and the Atlanta organisers have put aside \$10 million to counter-attack any para-site firm that implies in its advertising that it is an Olympic sponsor when it is

Coke is the Official Presenter of the relay and, in part-exchange for its invest-ment of \$12 million, has chosen a quarter of the 10,000 runners from candidates suggested by Coke drinkers around the world.

The relay's progress through 1,300 towns across 42 states amounts to a continuous, rolling

commercial. At each festive stop, Coke will be served, Coke signs will be up, and Coke will control sales of pins, jackets and oth-

can apply for discounts of up to 15 per cent on private er relay merchmedical insurance and health screening. BUPA is happy to andise. The esadmit that this is a move towards keeping customers healthier and, therefore, less likely to make a claim. Peter Jacobs described it an

incentive scheme, and not compulsory: "We're not going to take a Big Brother attitude." he said. "We do not feel it is our place to make people go to the gym every week, but we do feel preventive medicine has an important role to play in the well-being of our clients. In the long run, it is better for

in return for membership

discounts. BUPA has created

links with a network of 240

health and fitness clubs

through the Fitness Industry

Association, and members are

offered 20 per cent off the

Members of fitness clubs

joining fee.

them and cheaper for us."
In addition, BUPA is setting up a surgeons' charter, which will effectively deliver higher volumes of patients to hospitals and surgeons who keep within its recommended prices. The insurer is concerned that private medical practitioners are charging too much for certain treatments and that many operations need not be undertaken.

When Peter Jacobs arrived in 1991, BUPA losses were £38.2 million. The latest returns covering 1995 show a surplus of £99.2 million, while PPP's pre-tax profits for 1995 was £32.2 million. son, a sculptor from Dyfed. He has won £5,000 and a

trip to the games. Coca-Cola will spend a reported \$650 million on the Olympics, half its advertising and marketing budget for the year. Executives are satisfied that their long association with the Olympics pays off in enhanced corporate image, social contribution and increased sales

The company has paid \$40 million to be a worldwide sponsor along with nine others: Visa, Kodak, Time magazine and Sports Illustrated, Panasonic, IBM, Xerox, Bausch and Lomb optical products, John Hancock Insurance and United Par-

cels Service. Below this top ten are progressively less expensive tiers of Olympic benefactors known as partners, national censees. The list includes an employment agency, three brands of vehicles, an airconditioning firm, even two television quiz shows.

Few sponsors pay their At each stop,

Coke will be served and it will control merchandise

corting caravan will drive BMW cars using Texaco petrol, stay at Holiday Inns, wear Champion sportswear, use Motorola cell phones, and fly on Delta Airlines —

all relay sponsors. Coca-Cola insists that even with all its promotion and advertising the relay will be tastefully done. "I think people will be pleased by the purity and thoughtfulness of the way it's presented," said Stu Cross, director of worldwide sports for the soft drink group. The runners themselves will wear no corporate logos.

The relay is a warm-up for Coca-Cola's huge sponsorship during the games which will be held within sight of the company's Atlanta headquarters. The company has built the first Olympic theme park in the centre of the city. Disc jockeys will be flown

in from around the world, including Capital Radio in London, to broadcast from the park. Britain's winning entry for Coke-inspired folk art, combining Coca-Cola bottles and Stonehenge, was designed by Brian Anderobligation totally in cash. Most contracts involve a barter system for

goods and services. For example, Dial will deliver 300 tons of soap, deodorant.

shampoo and Brillo pads to the Olympic

villages.
Not everyone is convinced that the Olympic connection pays off. Obtaining rights to the five-ring Olympic symbol is only the start. It takes costly advertising to capitalise on a firm's commitment. Federal Express dropped out

after 1988, saying the investment did not work for them. 3M reached the same conclusion in 1992. But the withdrawal of American Express after 1984 is now seen as a

Visa stepped in, convinced that credit cards were exactly the type of universal service to benefit from being part of the Olympic action. Now only Visa can be used to buy tickets to the games, or at the venues, and the company reckons its Olympic link is worth a 7 per cent increase in profits. John Bennett, marketing director for Visa International, said: "Our tracking studies found that those five rings make customers feel better about you as a company and about your

End to RPM will hit community

From S. G. Tanna Sir. Asda's corporate counsel may be of the opinion that resale price maintenance (RPM) on non-prescription medicines is "an outdated piece of junk law" (April 17). What he has not considered is the potentially devastating long term effect that the aboliion of RPM will have on our local community pharmacies.
The removal of RPM will

force the closure of many smaller, independent pharma-cies who will be unable to compete with the superstores. Consumers will, therefore, have less access to the wide range of services - from dispensing to health care advice - offered by the pharma-cist, which will hit the most vulnerable particularly hard.

We are moving towards an age of responsible self-medication and, as such, the local pharmacist will be playing an increasingly important role in primary healthcare. The loss of your local pharmacy is a high price to pay for cheaper medicines, Mr Norman. Yours faithfully. S. G'TANNA.

Director. Hetpole Ltd.

Dispensing chemist, 398 Dedworth Road,

Windsor, Berkshire.

er say at AGMs without

Journey back in time with the RAC Comfort conflict ten at Lloyd's but subsequent-From Mr Denis Christian, ly the panel was enlarged to

Sir. I have just heard Sir Alastair Morton, Eurotunnel's co-chairman, say that he is "comfortable" with the loss of £925 million during the first year of operation. One trusts that countries, peoples, shareholders and banks are equally comfortable and that Sir Alastair has a comfortable retirement in October. Actually, I am more con-

cerned about the misuse of the English language, and that such leaders of industry should see "comfortable" and "ashamed" Yours faithfully,

DENIS CHRISTIAN, 37 Swanscombe Road. Chiswick,

Simple solution that will give shareholders a greater say at AGMs

From Ralph Instone

Sir, There is a simple solution, which I have already suggested to the DTI, to the problem (Graham Searjeant, April 20) of giving shareholders a great-

From J. A. G. Stonehouse

Sir, I refer to your article

"GRE poised to buy RAC's insurance broking side" (April

19). To say that the RAC "has

been offering motor insurance for more than 20 years" is

something of an understate-

ment. Prior to 1948 RAC

policies were offered on behalf

of the RAC by two Lloyd's brokers, Muir Beddall and Robt. Bradford. In 1947 they

formed a jointly owned com-

which by agreement with the

RAC devoted its activities en-

tirely to the provision of insur-

ance facilities for members of

the RAC with policy wording

approved by the RAC and an

arbitration clause by the RAC in the event of dispute. Initial-

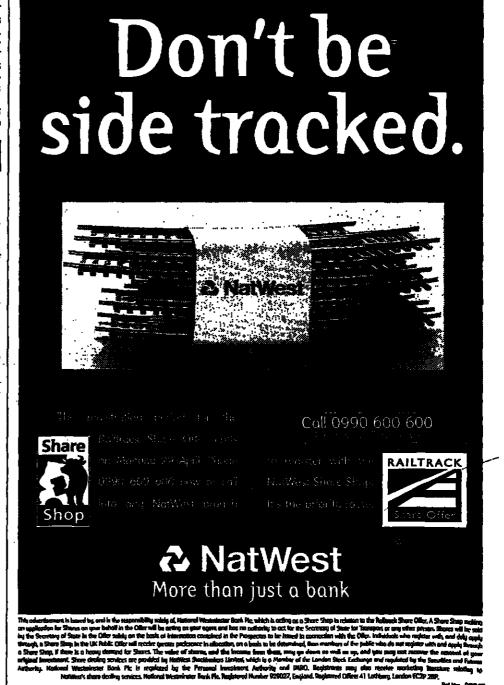
ly the policies were underwrit-

Beddall Bradford,

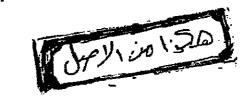
derogating from directors' responsibilities. the matter falls within the scope of the circulated agenda. Companies should be obliged

All voting shareholders should be given a statutory to append a note to this effect right to raise any matter at the to the notice convening the AGM on giving not less than, meeting, like the note at present required about voting say, three days' prior notice to the company, whether or not by proxy. Yours faithfully.

Letters to the Business and Finance section of The Times can be sent by fax on 0171-782 5112. RALPH INSTONE, 18 Fairacres. Roehampton Lane,



المارا من الرجل



	THE TIMES FRIDAY APRIL 26 1996		EQUITY PRICES 31
	ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES Place Mid Place Mid Place Mid Place Place Mid Place	Equities claw back early losses	1996 Phosp
1 € 4 € 4 €	ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES 256 450 Miled Damany 516 - 8 57 18 9 19 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 10	TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.	241 228 227 227 249 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 241 24
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Cutting the jargon and the bills

Future phones

may deliver

e-mail, news and

cricket scores

in ever greater numbers (despite several cellphone radiation scares, each of them instantly denied by the industry), but the market has changed a lot in the last year. It has matured.

Twelve months ago most people were baffled by the jargon and won over by cheap or even free hand-sets. The cost of joining the mobile low, until the bills arrived.

Today we are wiser, and the mobile phone networks know it. Eye-catching deals that disguise the real cost of ownership are disappearing. No one is fooled.

Much of the momentum for this change has come through the success of Orange, the all-digital network owned by Hutchison Telecom and British Aerospace. Launched in 1994, with a baffling name and a big

advertising cam-paign. Orange had a slow beginning, but now has 500,000 subscribers. Vodalone and Cellnet are still bigger, but they have a decade's start on the newcomer and a back-

log of older users hooked onto analogue systems. Mercury's One2One subsidiary also had a short start on Orange, but is probably now in fourth place, and some way behind on geographical

Over the years, we have been plagued by complex tariffs, with different rates for a variety of phone calls and services. New mobile users find it hard to predict their phone usage, making it almost impossible to choose with any great degree of accuracy the best airtime package. And if you get your sums wrong, changing to a better tariff could be expensive.

What Orange did was to ignore the idea of discounting handsets and concentrate on a bundled airtime deal. The handset will probably cost at least £50, depending on the model, but the airtime deal is straightforward and flexi-

Motorola mr20

Orange

Phone

rivate consumers may be ble. One of the most popular turning to mobile phones schemes, which costs £25 a month plus VAT, includes 60 minutes in calls, after which you pay a flat sum per second.

The success of Orange has persuaded Vodafone and Cellnet to follow suit with similar simple bundled tariffs, which for some users can work out cheaper for basic calls. Setting up phone net-works is an expensive business. Nobody involved can afford to run at bargain-basement prices for long. Instead of embarking on a price war, networks are more likely to compete on bundled features than on the cost per call.

Choosing a mobile service is, happily, a lot simpler than it was a year ago. Most users now will opt for a digital system, rather than an old analogue one. The voice quality is normally better and the coverage is rapidly becoming comparable. Beware of dubi-

ous coverage boasts, however. Some networks base them on the areas that can be reached by a highcarphone, not the portable handsets most of us use. So check, before you

buy, that you really can get good reception in the places where you

want to use your phone.

A largely hidden benefit of the digital system is its ability to send and receive data reliably. This means nothing to most domestic phone owners, although a growing number of business users plug their phones into notebooks or personal communicators to send and receive faxes and e-mail.

The biggest drawback to digital data is the cost of the card needed to plug into your PC, which is unlikely to be much below £500. But this will fall, and data services will also start to work directly on the screen of your phone, too.

The networks are quietly working on the idea of delivering e-mail, financial news and even cricket scores straight to your pocket. And when those services arrive, the rush into digital may turn into a flood.



Dial M for mugger, MI5 and the drug merchants

lthough crime is still rife within the mobile phone industry, the Government seems reluctant to act. Despite occasional mutterings about legislation, the onus is on the networks and their customers to take action

themselves. It is estimated that 15,000 telephone handsets are being stolen every month. About 6.000 of these are then used to make calls and the costs charged to the loser's bill. Mobile phone crime costs the industry more than £100 million a year, and is said by the police to encourage muggings and support other criminal activities, such as drug dealing. But as long as most phones remain non-digital, life will be easy for the crooks; unencrypted identities can easily be altered.

The Duke of Edinburgh was the

most recent royal to discover-that analogue phones are far from snoop-proof, and the same off-the-shelf scanner, which recorded his private conversation with a woman in February, can also gather a phone's serial number and code. This identity can be transferred to a stolen mobile, which then operates at the expense of the "cloned" user. Last year saw a 400 per cent increase in cloning, at a cost to the industry of more than £20 million.

If the networks detect unusual activity on a subscriber's account. they will cut off the service; the first the customer will know of this is when his handset fails to respond. However, as Bob Tomalski, editor

Phone thefts fund drug rings and

other crimes, says



Mobiles: a thieves' paradise

only applies if the crook uses the phone in a significantly different way from his victim. If the customer usually makes a lot of different calls, then it is harder for the networks to detect it."

Aware of the problem, the Department of Trade and Industry set up a study group, which reported last October and suggested, amid a flurry of publicity, that the possession of scanning equipment be criminalised. The Government has semed reluctant to act. Mr Tomalski calls this non-action: "An unter sham, designed to give the impression that they care while they do absolutely nothing." However, a spokesman for the DTI says: We are keen to get to grips with the problem, but there are many,

equipment, such as radio hams, and we need to be sure we won't criminalise them". Instead, the industry is having to put its own house in order. In an attempt to defeat cloning. Vodatone recently introduced the authentification" system; once a PIN number has been entered into a suitably equipped phone its electronic identity is permanently encrypted, a move that Chris Gent, the compa-

perfectly harmless users of the

Steve Gold, the news editor of Mobile Fraud and Security International, is not so sure. "Authentification is a good system, but it has

ny's managing director, calls "a

major step forward in the fight

the mobile phone

come rather too late. It is not the case that they can throw a swo and everyone will be protected only about a third of Vodasone's costomers can benefit without up grading their equipment " He says that such moves stem from the increased competition. "Until now. the networks seem to have viewed fraud as an acceptable cost to bear, but as margins fall more and more

of these measures are being taken."

In February, the industry launched its most concerted effort yet - a El million crime prevention scheme that employs "Swat-style" teams of inspectors to check that dealers are not reconnecting stolen phones on the sty. According to the industry body, the Federation of Communication Services, these inspectors have since found live suspect dealers, who risk losing the trade of the other members in the the industry. But it remains to be seen to what extent six inspectors can successfully monitor 10,000

Mr Gold observes this selfegulation with interest. "They have to do this because the Government thinks that the networks should have taken measures earlier, when mobiles were launched here in 1985. It was already known from the American trials that cloning would be a problem."

Mr Gold says that even the digital networks are threatened by fraud. Despite the claims of invulnerability, digigal encryptions were cracked 18 months ago by Italian hackers, and have since been used by government intelligence services, including MI5. Anyone with the right hardware and expertise can decipher the digital codes, but it is still more secure because eavesdroppers can't just buy a scanner off the shelf and whizz around the airways. They have to have a specific target in mind."

To counter the threat to digital. including that posed by subscription fraud (signing up to a service in somebody else's name), the Orange network has its own team of professional investigators, with the manpower and resources to follow up intelligence from the anorak community and the option of carrying a case right through to prosecution.

The police emphasise that much of this crime is due to the carelessness of the owners, who frequently leave handsets on trains, or temptingly on show in their parked cars. They say that even simple measures, such as marking the phones with an ultraviolet pen, would help to track down the crooks.

Can you hear me? I'm at the theatre .

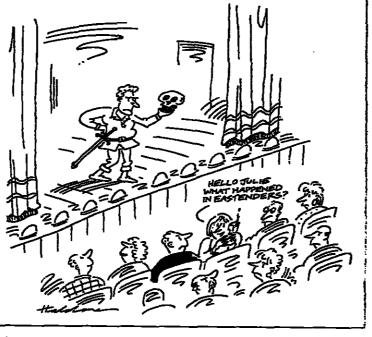
overs may love them - but when does a mobile phone call become downright indecent? Should you take one, for example, to church? Or to the opera, theatre

Earlier this year Lord Lichfield banned mobile phones from his pheasant shoots. "Frightfully bad nners." he said. Later, after a House of Lords debate on the subject, mobile phones were banned from some Great Western carriages. Recently, the Israeli Army also ordered its conscripts not to carry them when they went in action For those in doubt, Cellnet's

You've got questions. We've got answers

© ⊆ welcome

booklet Mobile Manners: A Guide to Mobile Etiquette in the 90s, from which the cartoon, right, is taken, may be useful. Ring 0800 424323. More cartoons on page 34.







Police are using personal digital notepads in the fight against car

thieves. David Hewson reports

Techno-literate car thieves who laughed at the ill-fated launch of Apple's Newton personal digital assistant (PDA) should steer clear of Derbyshire. About 25 Newtons are now on patrol there in

the hands of the local police.

The PDAs plug straight into a digital mobile phone and will dial through to the national police computer network, which has the registration numbers of suspect cars. Faster than the average personal computer can connect to a conventional dial-up network, the Newtons will flash back the name of the owner and whether the vehicle has been reported stolen.

Before long it could be doing the same with descriptions of suspects, or even photographs, as part of a national portable information network based on a marriage of PDAs and digital phones.

Most of us remember the Newton as an idea that was met with ridicule because of the shaky way the little device tried, and usually failed, to interpret your handwriting. But it has been growing in stature over the past year, and Britain is proving a remarkably fertile place for it to thrive since we have some of the bestdeveloped digital phone networks in the world

For technical reasons, data is difficult and unreliable on old-fashioned analogue mobile-phone networks. On digi-

tal, its natural format, electronic data is faster and more reliable, with speeds of 9,600 bits per second, equivalent to a low to mid-range PC modern. These are early days for PDAs. however, and no one is quite sure exactly what kind of device different markets require. What suits a corporate business user, dialling into a sales database, is unlikely to appeal to the consumer who just wants to keep check on

share prices and messages. A very popular PDA is the Psion Organiser, which takes a conventional approach to portable information. It is essentially a small computer. with a tiny screen and key-board and built-in writing. financial and communications applications.

You can share information on the Psion with your desktop PC, then take it on the road in your pocket. Like almost all new portable devices launched by manufacturers ranging from Hewlett-Packard to Sharp, the Psion has what is known as a PC card slot. This can run a variety of removable devices, from storage cards to the digital data card needed to link your PDA to your phone.

You can pay from £300 upwards for the Psion, and another hundred pounds for



Police are using PDAs to check the numberplates of cars they suspect are stolen

upmarket model, the OmniGo 700, which fits directly onto a Nokia GSM phone, without the need for a data card, but it is expected to retail at a helty £850 or so, plus VAT.

Perhaps the most difficult task in choosing a PDA for mobile communications is judging the software. Some is,

rewritten for the latest version of the Newton operating system, which was released to acclaim at the end of last year. Now, you can send and

receive faxes very easily, and there is a growing library of applications that will fetch your e-mail from a variety of networks, including Computon as a computer.

You may need extra software for communication, managing contacts and appointments. Most users will also need to synchronise information be-

tween a desktop PC and PDA. Again, the quality varies, so shop around, see it in action, and accept that the PDA-wielding road warrior is a pioneer in these digital waters. Whatever you buy today will look a little dated a year hence. but you can have a lot of fun and value out of your pur-

How to ensure that you can be reached anywhere

long given us the possibility of having one telephone number. regardless of which telephone we use. But a mobile is more expensive, there may be reception problems and some batteries won't cope with heavy use. So mobiles are usually turned on only when their owners

do not have access to stationary and cheaper telephones. According to the com-panies selling them, the answer is a single phone number that can be switched automatically, us-ing a PIN number on a touch telephone, from

phone to phone. The system can also be set up automatically, sending calls made to a personal number to different phones as needed. Personal numbers are

also being sold as "lifetime" numbers, where people moving house or businesses moving premises no longer need to change their telephone number. This started to become a reality after the changes made on Phoneday. which allowed Oftel to release a new 07 prefix for personal numbering. Vodafone, for example, acquired the rights to the prefix 07000, and Flextel offers a similar service.

However, this system also costs more money. Subscribers to 07000 numbers pay £120 to buy the number, plus

Call for personal

numbers

Thomas: high premiums

£3 a month. Possibly more

daunting is that callers to

the number have to pay

higher call charges: 14p a

minute during peak times

and 8p a minute off peak.

Long-distance charges made

to an ordinary telephone

number are 8p a minute

peak rate, 5p a minute off peak and only ip a minute for BT local off-peak calls.

is diverted to a mobile or. as

will soon be possible, to a

phone in another country, the subscriber again pays

If a personal number call

ed between different employees at preset times. Because personal num-bers use different prefixes, a whole range of new num-bers are available, Businesses are moving in on the possibilities of having a memorable number and, with the restoration of letters on modern phones, the ability to use words as well. Geremy Thomas is man-

aging director of The Per-Number Company, one of three that is selling numbers using Vodafone's 07000 prefix. He says six out of ten numbers are specially chosen, and a quarter of those people are interested in the words that the numbers can make. Such numbers come at a premium though, Mr Thomas charges a £350 connection fee and £450 annual subscription for what his company calls platinum numbers. Super-platinum numbers, such as the recently sold 07000 MORT-GAGE, are by negotiation

extra. The predictions are that these personal number charges could drop, but for

the moment many will balk

For companies, a personal number does not need to be

attached to an individual.

Customer service opera-

tions, for example, can auto-

matically have calls switch-

at the rates.

MATTHEW MAY



FFVed. GH 388 Using the latest technology, Ericsson have designed a mobile phone that gives you an astonishing 10 working days standby time (that's up to 80 hours) or 4 hours and 35 minutes talktime with the plus battery*. It's also smaller, lighter and has more features than ever before. In fact, you'll find the GH 388 is the most advanced mobile phone around.

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For details of Ericsson accessories

The plus battery is available separately. The GH 388 comes with the light battery giving 33 hours standby and 115 minutes talktime.



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Based on eouvalent recommended tariffs. 125 dies mar of off-peak calls. Mindtage reduces whee peak-time calls are

nitially an expensive business tool, cellular telephony is now becoming a mass-market commodity and consumers should benefit from a price war

between network operators.
Cellnet and Vodafone plan to ape Orange's per-second billing and to include "free" airtime minutes in monthly subscription charges for digital services. For those who subscribe to the pricewar theory, these are viewed as the first salvoes, fired in response to Orange's surprising the market by attracting 50,000 new subscribers in December, double that achieved by Vodafone and 10,000 ahead of Cellnet. It seems that Vodafone rather than Cellnet is

Real price cuts — or just a phoney war? losing customers to Orange. And

the defecting subscribers tend to be the higher-spending ones. In September 1993, when Mercury launched its digital service. One2One. Vodafone accounted for almost 55 per cent of the market and Cellnet for 45 per cent. At the end of March, Vodafone's market share is the same as that of Cellnet at around 42 per cent. Orange now holds 8 per cent and has the fastest growth rate. After a spectacular start with free local calls offered, One2One has 8 per

cent, despite launching seven months before Orange in Septem-

Even so, industry analysts do not regard Vodafone's - or Cellnet's - actions as the start of a price war so much as a gesture to apparent public preferences, designed to maintain their high profit margins. The industry calls Vodafone's new pricing scheme "the Orange squeezer".

Martin Garner, managing consultant for mobile communications with Ovum a London

company, says that Cellnet and Vodafone "will be watching the next few months very carefully, and if Vodafone finds its move has not been successful in stemming the move to Orange, it will have grounds for concern". But he notes that the two have not tried to undercut Orange (or One2One) but have adopted lookalike service offerings.

Cellnet's scheme promises reductions of up to 30 per cent on bills: Vodafone launched two new packages on April 1. The two's

YESSIR, THE MONEY

enough Adam Zoldan, Dataquest's personal communications industry analyst, says: "Many new subscribers were attracted by free connection, no line rental and subsidised handsets, only to receive their first bill which was three times the cost of the phone and they signed off." Towards the end of last year, Mr Zoldan adds. consumers realised there was no such thing as a free phone. so there was a surge towards Or-

ange, which had always put the

ahead of heavily discounting the original cost of the phone, giving the user a good idea of what the

bill would be. However, it seems there are reasons other than price. The Consumer's Association's Consumer Policy Review found that disillusion and dissatisfaction among mobile-phone users are rife, with almost three-quarters (74 per cent) experiencing problems. Almost four out of ten would hand back their mobile, change tariff or

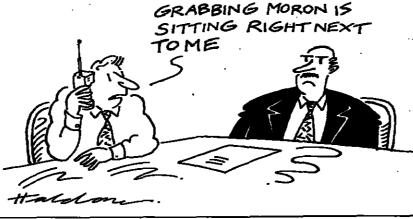
move network tomorrow, if they weren't bound to pay a financial penalty to the service provider. The report concluded that

among mobile phone users, the unhappiest are Mercury Ones. One clients and those connected inthe Vodafone analogue network

Areas in which Orange scores better include providing itemised telephone bills as standard and months free insurance on every

The real issues are hidden cost weasel wording on contracts. easively high call charges, canada lation penalties, failure to offer trial periods, and misleading ad vice from those more interested in







Take a library wherever you go

an Schiefer, an engineer at Hewlett-Packard's research laboratory in Bristol, spends a lot of time away from his office. Thanks to his mobile phone, however, he does not fall behind with his email or market data.

Mr Schiefer uses the phone in combination with a portable computer to log in to his office workstation, download e-mail and surf the Internet. "I can dial the World Wide Web to get the latest research information or market surveys," he says. "It's like having a library with you wherever you go." The only drawback. he says, is that the Internet connection can take a minute

More and more people are using mobile phones for data communication as well as voice, transmitting everything from e-mail and faxes to spreadsheets. word-processing files, graphics and slide ns. The Mobile Data Association believes that 100,000 people will begin using mobile data this year.

One reason for the recent growth is that digital systems, such as PCN and GSM, have become reliable enough for data. Another attraction is Short Messaging Services (SMS), for example, allows you to send a few words to mobile handsets for a few pence. Doing the same thing on a mobile voice-mail service Jane Bird on sending and

receiving data by phone

costs at least 50p by the time the caller has paid to leave the message and the recipient has paid to collect it.

Using a portable computer with a mobile phone is rather more expensive because you have to buy a £500 card to go into your computer. "It might take you five minutes to convey 500 or 1,000 words in speech," Kevin Farquharson, principal consultant at Mobile Business Systems, a Londonhased consultancy specialising in mobile data, says. With fax or e-mail you could send the same information ten to 50 times faster." An A4 page takes one second to transmit.

The other main reason for mobile data's popularity is that businesses are beginning to use it for a host of applications such as order-processing, human resources, timereporting and the tracking of service or delivery staff. Many organisations are now giving staff a mobile phone and a data card for their portable computer. If the member of staff moves house or resigns, the equipment can be moved or returned.

Businesses that want mobile data do have another option they can buy a device that works exclusively for data. These have been around for some years and tend to be used by organisations that have a large number of field staff. such as engineering services companies or couriers. Andy Bird, managing director of Securicor Datatrak, which provides a data-only service, says it can be more costeffective than combined voice and data because staff can't run up huge phone bills. "Around 80 per cent of calls to service engineers, for example, are to find out where they are and what they are doing," Mr Bird says, "Using voice for this

kind of thing often means

having a 15-minute conversa-

tion of which one minute is

answering the questions and

the rest is about football."

owever, mobile tomers want more than data. People don't just want to send files, faxes and text messages," says Graham Oxby, head of product marketing at Orange. They also want to talk about what they've sent. They might want to confirm receipt, discuss the subject matter or get some sort of spoken response. Such people don't want to be forced to choose between data and voice. They want both."



On call for business or pleasure . . .

On duty: Pimlico Plumbers, above, use Mercury One2One mobile phones to improve their efficiency and to communicate with customers and suppliers. Off duty: the new pocket NEC Foldfone, below, costs £99



How many extras does a phone need?

mart phones — who needs them? On the face of it, mobile phones have much in common with home video recorders. Most of the adult population can exploit only their most basic functions and are baffled by the ever-increasing range of features.

These embrace everything from a choice of ringing tones fincluding a few bars of wellknown tunes) to bright col-ours, in-built clocks and calculators, vibration mode for those who wish to be alerted to their phone ringing silently, electronic address books and the option of using them in conjunction with a computer to send and receive faxes and electronic mail. The question is, does anyone want

Adam Zoldan, industry analyst for personal communications at Dataquest Europe. says: "Until now our research shows that the choice of phone features." However, he feels it is far more healthy - and a sign of a maturing market for people to be willing to pay a fair price for a phone up front and then pay service charges they can afford. Keith Westcott, director of

mobile phones at manufacturет Ericsson UK, says his company frequently has to deal with irate customers who are baffled to find that a battery costs several times

what they paid for the phone. Alison Brolls, head of marketing at Nokia Mobile Phones (UK) Sales, says: "Customers' needs vary. Some might want a straightforward. cheap phone, but there are people who want all types of features built-in. The common factor that must apply to them

all is simplicity of use." Also, unlike video recorders. mobile phones are personal and this is fuelling a whole sub-industry in accessories.

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R

Annie Turner

on what manufacturers

plan next

They fall into three categories: those to do with power supply such as batteries and battery chargers; add-ons for using the phone in the car; and those to do with image such as carrying cases. coloured covers and so our

Mr Westcott says: "Phone users are changing. Younger users want more features. They grew up with personal computers, are not intimidated by technology and enjoy getting the most they can out of any personal device." There is evidence to suggest

that instead of concentrating on more advanced or individual features, manufacturers trate on more fundamental issues. In February, the Consumers' Association published the findings of an extensive survey of mobile users in the UK in the Consumer Policy Review. It found that 12 per cent of respondents had had to repair new phones during the past year (unrelated to accidents or misuse), while a further 16 per cent reported that they had needed to pay for repairs to phones that were two, three and four

Battery life is another weakness and something that all

vears old.

trying to improve. At the end of February Nokia launched the E79 1610 digital phone for use on GSM networks which provides up to seven hours of air time and 200 hours (eight days) of standby time. This is way beyond the capacity of

anything else on the market. Motorola's StarTac phone will be available in the UK later in the year; without any accessories it weighs only 30z and can fit into a jeans' pocket. With the main and auxiliary barreries combined, it offers up to four hours of talk time and 47 hours on standby.

ricsson's top-of-the-range GSM phone, the GH388, was launched in March and can provide almost five hours of talk time and 80 hours of standby. It can be linked to a portable computer to send e-mail and other data at 9.6kbit/s.

The aim of all m ers used to be to produce an ever smaller phone, but optimal small size and weight have been achieved: for example Motorola's StarTac or Sony's phone that folds up to be the same size as a pager.

Martin Garner, managing consultant with London-based Ovum, says: "In the end, the cellular market will be likethat for watches today, where you can pay a fiver for one from a garage forecourt or thousands of pounds for a Rolex, depending on what you need and can afford."

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Salate 📕 TOTAL SEE "Merete Mi tester and accord Hara music in Periode the man Sacher & Sacher

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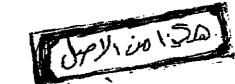
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THE TIMES FOR





OPERA

Graham Vick produces a minor miracle for ENO: a convincing Fidelio staging



MUSIC

Shaping the course of 20th-century composition: Paul Sacher, modern music's great patron, turns 90

THE



MAGIC

Penn and Teller brush up their tricks and their rude humour for a season at Sadler's Wells



■ TOMORROW

How the tuneful duo, Everything But The Girl, found fame and a new sound at the cutting-edge

The simple truth is, it's perfect

OPERA

Fidelio

Coliseum

be one of the soaring peaks in the 400-year history of the genre, but it is hideously difficult to bring off in the theatre: the last two Covent Garden productions fell as wide of the mark as the previous one at the Coliseum. But Graham Vick's new staging for English National Opera hits the nail bang on the head time after time and is, along with Peter Hall's Glyndebourne version, one of the most truthful and moving I have

Vick and the conductor Richard Hickox approach the piece for what it is, not for what it has become - especially, since the Second World War, the

opportunity for some kind of grand,

breast-beating "statement" (for grand, read shallow). But Fidelio's roots are firmly in French opéra comique, and it celebrates simple human truths and aspirations. Hickox's brisk speeds for Marzelline's and Jaquino's opening numbers and Vick's sprightly, near-sitcom direction, with Mary Plazas confiding in the audience and Philip Sheffield singing fearsome stage cockney, remind us that we are among very ordinary people, who just happen to run a

When the extraordinary starts to happen with Fidelio's entrance. Hickox's gentle, flowing tempo for the canon quartet scarcely breaks the domestic mood, which the traditional Mahler-adagio approach always does. We slip back to Uncle Rocco's very modernsounding Gold aria without a hitch. Throughout, Hickox's conducting is the very antithesis of the Furtwängler-Klemperer tradition, eet and human in scale, so their effect is redoubled. Beetho- when the particular becomes the

• • • •

ven's musical journey from the commonplace to the epic is faithfully charted.

David Pountney's jauntily de-motic new translation is all part of the concept: the syntax is as everyday as Paul Brown's contem-porary costumes, with warders' uniforms familiar from countless prison movies and the white puttees for the marines striking a more transatlantic note. (The huge cross on which the action is set may be deconstructed according to taste.) Pizarro is no leather-coated fascist monster, but a civil servant in

pinstripe trousers. so very ordinary and hence so very frightening. We are here and now, and any danger of con-flict between the

potential fustian of the text is avoided by the speed with which Vick directs the dialogue, and the total conviction he has inspired in the cast. All on stage believe in what they are doing, and so does the audience.

Of course, any Fidelio stands or falls by its protagonist, and with Kathryn Harries it not only stands but soars into the stratosphere. Her mezzo-ish instrument does not find the upper reaches of the role easy many top notes emerge as an act of will - but she turns this to advantage; the very effort required is part of her characterisation, for this Leonore is not the traditional amazon Valkyrie capable of gobbling up four prison governors before breakfast, but a vulnerable woman constantly aware of the danger she is in, constantly having to steel herelf to her task.

She made much of that great turning point in the second-act trio when Leonore determines to rescue the orisoner even before she knows that when the big moments come it is her husband, the moment



(From left): Kathryn Harries, Gwynne Howell and Mary Plazas in English National Opera's "truthful and moving" modern-dress Fidelio

universal — all part of Beethoven's scheme. She phrases the gentler music with innate warmth, and in general suggests that Leonore's natural goodness and unselfishness are the human norm rather than the time-serving ordinariness

of all around her. Anthony Rolle Johnson sings Florestan with Mozartian grace and near-Wagnerian fullness of - perfect. Peter Sidhom's ranting Pizarro and John Connell's Sarastro-like Minister are excellent. Gwynne Howell's bustling, sly Rocco, reeking of false bonhomie and with eyes firmly on the main chance, is one of the best things this fine artist has done.

A well-intentioned but horrible dumbshow in the overture is the only flaw in this marvellous stag-

Paying and playing its way

THE Budapest Festival Orchestra, first off the mark when private funding and administration became de rigueur in post-subsidy Hungary, goes from strength to strength and is now arguably the country's leading orchestra.

As early as 1983, when the players were drawn together by Ivan Fischer and Zoltan Kocsis, the emphasis was on chambermusical preparation, section by section. Now the players include members of the Kodaly and Eder Quartets, of the Budapest Wind Ensemble and, in the leader's chair, Gabor Takacs, late of the

ler's Sixth Symphony showed the RODNEY MILNES discipline of ensemble and the ly placed, distancing the sound as

eponymous quartet.

CONCERT

Budapest FO/Fischer Barbican

wisdom of Ivan Fischer. He is maturing as a conductor of largescale repertoire, and this performance was one of the most cogeni I have ever heard from him.

Despite the symphony's extreme subject-matter (death, plain and simple), it resisted extremes. Fischer chose instead to concentrate detail in the fragile trios, each one relief, with the violins, antiphonal-

if from another world. But the unremitting darkness of its vision was powerfully sculpted in a wellpaced opening march, hard-edged by percussion and biting angrily at each incisive entry.

By the final march, momentum was inexorable: this vast body of players moved with indefatigable impetus towards those two great hammer-blows. Nothing could follow an act like that; but Tasso, Lamento e Trionfo by Budapest's own Franz Liszt, had started the evening in a version which contained the composer's final 1854 corrections to a work which had begun as an overture to Goethe's

HILARY FINCH

MAGIC

Trick and treat

Penn and Teller Sadler's Wells

YOU have probably seen these guys on the box. Penn and Teller are the American double act who have injected sick humour into hackneyed conjuring tricks. They hover somewhere between standup, magic and the Archaos theory of entertainment.

Penn is the gigantic, garrulous one with the joke-sadistic tendencies. He drags out a mock-disas-trous card trick while his tiny, silent sidekick Teller apparently drowns quietly in a water tank.

This is the first time the so-called gruesome twosome have performed live in this country. Their show, warmly received at Sadler's Wells, has been extended to May 4. Spurts of fake blood get big laughs and "yeuchs" from the audience when a white rabbit is (only seemingly, of course) dropped into

an industrial shredder. There are many surprises and amusing flashes in the course of the evening. Teller swallows needles, then chews on a length of cotton and disgorges the lot miraculously threaded together. As Penn juggles jagged broken bottles, you feel the thrill of simultaneous nerves and admiration. Elsewhere the duo share their trade secrets, replaying in slow motion sleights of hand with a lit cigarette, yet still keeping mystifying tricks up their sleeves.

But if shocking anarchy is the game, this show is quite tame. Penn and Teller are rather sweet at heart. They also cherish their art, tantalising you with levitation, rounding off with fire-breathing.

The more theatrical vignettes are the most thought-provoking. Teller takes a knife to the shadow of a rose and as he stabs, the petals of the real flower fall. On a park bench, a talkative tourist finds himself alarmingly handcuffed to a strange, morbidly unresponsive man. Only when the struggle turns into a hug do the cuffs magically

KATE BASSETT

One of the century's most influential patrons is entering his tenth decade

High commissioner of music

n Sunday, Paul Sacher, the Swiss conductor and arts patron, celebrates his ninetieth birthday, Since 1926, Sacher has commissioned more than 200 compositions, which makes his patronage of 20thcentury classical music unrivalled. What makes Sacher's contribution as a music patron unique, however, is the degree to which his own musical tastes and accomplishments have influenced the shape of classical music in our century.

Perhaps the most important aspect of Sacher's influence is the dominance of the strings in the works which he commissioned. When he created the Basie Chamber Orchestra in 1926, it was an ensemble based on its string sections.

It was with this ensemble

and, after 1941, its Zurich counterpart, the Collegium Musicum Zurich, that commissioned works were to be given their world premieres. Although the musicians from whom he commissioned were "free" in terms of deadlines and styles, they were composing, almost always, for his strings. "I gave them as much freedom as possible." Sacher explained, but they had to know something about my

Similarly, Sacher's dislikes played an influential role. There was, for instance, his earlier aversion to the piano. "I never played or learnt the piano — I found it a dreadful instrument. Sacher later admitted. I much preferred the sound of the organ or the harpsichord.* The strength of this preference is evidenced by his persuading Frank Martin to include the harpsichord in his Petite Symphonie Concertante, a Sacher commission

written in 1944-45. Music with a strong rhyth-mic element lay at the heart of Sacher's aesthetic preference. It was one of the major criteria which attracted him to, or turned him away from, the work of individual composers. In the 1920s this drew him to the work of Paul Hindemith, the "bad boy" of contemporary music, and later to composers such as Bartok and Stravinsky. It also led to his never giving commissions to chalet in Saanen. Schoenberg, Berg or Webern



Criticised in his later years for this neglect, Sacher testily retorted: "I'm not the radio. I don't have to be fair. I took what I felt was the best for me and my orchestra."

Sometimes, though, the influence was more mundane than musical. Occasionally Sacher would request compositions of specific length or nature to fill in a gap or to complete one of his programmes. His 1965 commission

for his Basle Chamber Orchestra of Conrad Beck's Hommages, two pieces for orchestra, was accompanied by a request in a letter that the work should be ap-proximately 15 minutes

length so that it would be suitable to begin a programme of longer works by Henze and Stravinsky.

In addition to these musical considerations, personal elements also shaped the compo-sitions. Sacher sometimes created intense relationships with composers, often involving material support and proximity. Honegger and Martinu were both long-term house guests at Schoenenberg, Sacher's Basle country estate, and Bartók composed his Divertimento for String Orchestra (1939) in Sacher's holiday

Sacher's vast network of

had a synergistic influence on compositions. Sometimes these influences were personal, as when Sacher's introduction of Anne-Sophie Mutter to Witold Lutoslawski at a dinner party at Schoenenberg led Lutoslawski to request that his work Chain 2 (dedicated to Sacher) be premiered by her. Sometimes the influences were

academic. The creation of the

were the advan-

tages · provided

Schola Cantorum Basiliensis in 1933 sparked the use of materi-6 I don't al from early have to be music in contemporary composifair. I took tions, as evi-denced by the what was works. of Sven-Erik Back. best for my Lastly, there

orchestra 🤊

by Sacher's vast personal wealth. After his marriage in 1934 to the Hoffmann-La Roche heir-ess Maja Hoffmann-Stehlin, Sacher was able to privatise his Basle Chamber Orchestra,

thereby ensuring its continued existence. He was then also able to offer composers commission fees. Later, as fees skyrocketed, he could seek composers competitively, at the same time generously supporting his friends and those in need. For instance, in 1945. Sacher received a phone call from Dr Willi Schuh, a close personal friend of Richard Strauss, telling him that the maestro had arrived in Switzerland depressed and impov-erished. When Schuh requested that Sacher offer Strauss a commission, Sacher gave him one. Strauss gave him, in turn. his Metamorphosen.

As Sacher enters his ninetyfirst year, by appearing as a guest conductor and giving lectures around the world, his influence on the music of his century continues. He remains active in the pursuit of commissions. Perhaps most importantly, he has created the Paul Sacher Foundation in Basle, where composers, scholars and musicians can interact with the musical material of the 20th century. either to understand better what has gone before, or to inspire music yet to come.

Despite the success of the foundation, however, many would consider Sacher's crowning achievement to be the celebration of the music itself. Beginning in 1924, he introduced and promoted contemporary music to the public at a time when it was generally scorned. He created and inspired the renewal of early music. He personally brought about the creation of hundreds of works in the classical reper-

Many would see these actions as belitting some grand scheme, but for Sacher it was always much simpler than that: "As far as a man can think in the future, I did what I thought necessary, and what was possible for me."

LESLEY STEPHENSON



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CHOICE 1

The Birtwistle festival continues with a London Sinfonietta concert VENUE: Tonight at the Oueen Elizabeth Hall



■ CHOICE 2

Dennis Potter's Blue Remembered Hills comes to the National

VENUE: Previews begin tonight at the Lyttelton

THESTIMES



■ CHOICE 3 Janet Suzman

directs Rattigan's The Deep Blue Sea in Mold VENUE: In preview

THEATRE

Mistakes of the union? Sir Peter Hall lashes Equity for dictating who can appear on stage

little fidgetings suggest some-

thing less straightforward. So. increasingly, does Shawn's

play. We begin to hear tales of

banana-republic violence, im-

prisonment and death. It

seems that the American un-

derclass has rebelled, and that

changes of government and

cycles of repression have fol-

lowed, swallowing the writers

who helped to inspire the

turmoil. Nichols's forlorn, nihilistic Jack is left in a world without books, modern poets

or even Donne, philistinism's

"designated mourner" for the

passing of Howard's learning

as well as of his preciosity and

paranoid view of a Middle

America that reads girlie mags and fails to worship at

the shrine of Eng Lit? Some

may feel so. But there is a

quality in Shawn's writing -

imaginative verve, quiet inten-

sity, a sort of puritan sensitiv-

ity or a blend of them all -

that reduces objections to

quibbles. If the cast were

weaker, such a conclusion

would doubtless be less em-

phatic; but even then your ears

would have to be made of tin

or cloth if you failed to reach it.

is the play an intellectual's

WEEKEND CHOICE

LONDON BIRTWISTLE TO BRAHMS The continues at the Queen Elicabeth Hal longhi (7 45pm) Markus Stenz conducts the **London Sinfonietta** m two of the composer's best-known scores — Rituel Fragment and Verses for Ensembles. The highlight of the evening promises to be the premiero of Sow Frace, a specially commissioned work for (and performed by) the piants Joanna Maccinego: On Sahurday (7 30pm) the SWF Symphony Orchestra of Baden-Baden makes its London debut at the Foshval Hall Michael Greion, the orchestra's chief conductor, leads it in Brahms's Violin Concerto (sologo: Christian Tetzlaif) and Schubert's Symphony No 9, Great South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242)

BLUE REMEMBERED HILLS Denters Potter simensely polyment drama of childhood, set in 1943 and performe Mational (Lytichon), South Bank, SE1 0171-928 2252) Previews begin tonight. Bpm: Opens May 2: Then in rep. (5)

MALCOLM ARNOLD On Sunday the plants John Lill joins the conductor Richard Hiskou, — a staunch advocate of Amold's work — and the London Symphony Orchestra in a concert to mark the composer's 75th birthday. The programms includes his uplifting suite from The Sound Barrier and closes with

☐ CLOCKS AND WHISTLES: ELOCKS AND WHISTLES'
Evcellent performances in Samuel
Adamson's lirst play, and Dominic
Dromgoole's leart production as artistic
director young chap confused by
cross-gender disloyables in his gay-br-straight London world. Final week
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12
(0181-743 3383). Man-Sat, 8pm

☐ ELVIS Spirited revival of the 20-Li EUVis Springer revivation the 33-year-old hours show P.J. Proby plays the Vegas Elvis and Tim Whithail plays the Pelvis in his prime. Posturet, no emphasis on the late-night gorging on peanut butter and gibb torpedoes. Prince of Wates, Coventry, Street W1 (0171-839 5972). Mon-Thuic Sprin, Fin and Sart 5-30 and 8-1000. and Sat 5 30 and 8 30cm

■ EMILIA GALOTTI Princely seduction, country cyricsm and di before distrancer in Trilogy Co.s. attractive Fringe version of Losting's 1772 drama Last week. Courtyard 10 York Way, Yungs Cross, N1 (0171-833 0870) Tue-Sun Rom & ENDGAME. Rivering performances by Alun Armstrong and Stephen Billand harmsering at each other in Marke blindhold is production of matrix-parted.

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CURRENT

 CITY HALL 13: Something shotten in the call of too York even with A Placho as Mayor, Plachose grama with york Curson Broger Fonds and Danny, Acro Despot, Plachose Booker (1997). Odeons: Konsington 11426-914-666; Swiss Cottage -01416-914096; UCI Whiteleys (0171-792-2032) Warner West End (0171-427-4343)

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Until May 25. 6)

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

the intense Symphony No 5 Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891), 7,30pm. ELSEWHERE

MANCHESTER: Gunther Herbig is the guest conductor for temperor's BBC Philhermonic concert. The programmo includes Mozan's Symphony No 36, Linz, and Bruckner's nelocic Seventh Symphony Free Trade Hall, Peter Street (0161-834 1712), Saturday, 7 30pm. 🖏

MOLD First right of previews for Theat Clayd Company's production of The Deep Blue Sea, Janet Suzman directs Terence Ratiligan is compelling play of human relationships. Theatr Clayd (01352 755114). Tonght-Mon. 7 30pm (Sat 8pm) Opens Apr 30, 7 30pm Theat May 25 (5)

SALISBURY Jonathan Church revives The Rover, Mrs Aphea Behn's rollicking Charles It but set in Naples during Cromwell's rule. Robert Bethurst and

THEATRE GUIDE

House full, returns only '
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Cicape for d'Arrèle. Peter Hall directs a spienoid cast led by Fetichy Kondal Theatre Royal. Haymaker, SWI 10171-930 88001 Now previewing, 7.45pm mats Wed. Sat 3pm Opens May 7.7pm Then Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat 3pm [5] ■ SALAD DAYS Welcome return of Julian Stade's functul musical, directed by Ned Shorrin, Nicola Fulliames and Simple Connolly play the young lovers of a company that also includes Kit and the Widow

we whole: Strand WC2 (0171-836 9937) Mon-Sar apm mats Wed 2 30pm Sar apm THE SHATTERED VESSEL Ment a comed, about a broken jug. green or energetic but vigually the interpretation Riverside Studios Chisa Rd Hammershim W6 (18): 741 22511 Tue-Thiau Sst and Sun 7 45cm Fn 8 (5cm Unit Ma. 12

El TOLSTOY Oscar-wenning F Murray Abraham (Salien in Arnadous) plays the complicated novelist and Germina Jones his infunated wife, clawing at each other in James Goldman's play about their curdled manage. Tony Award-winner Jack Hofsiss directs Aldwych, Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6003) Now previewing, 7 45pm; mat Sat 3pm Opens Apr 30, 7pm Mon-Sat 7,45pm; mats Thrus and Sat 3pm. ☐ TWELVE ANGRY MEN Kevin

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON: First right for The White Devil; Webster's Jacobean tragedy of (what else?) passion, revenge and blood with Jan Gurnett as the vigorous but doorned Vittona. Gala Edwards directs Swein, Waterside (01.789 255623). Countr. 7 own Then Mon-Sal. 7.30om.

Tongin, 7pm Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat 1.30pm, in rep from May 8 with Peter Whelen's The Herbal Bed.

Berbleam: Contemporary Part Show:
Part 2 (0171-538 4141) Countsuid
Thomas Gamsborough (071-873 2526)
... Hayward, Spellbound: Art and Film
(071-928 3144) Lieweiliym
Alexander Gallery: A Million Brushstrokes IV (0171-520 1322)
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2885) National Portrait Gallery:
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Cailebotte (0171-439 7438) Tate
Cézanna, Bill Woodrow's status (0171887 8000) ... V & A: The Leighton
Frescoes (0171-938 8500)

LONDON GALLERIES

Whately Timothy West, Peter Vaughan and mne excellent others in Reginald Rose's justly celebrated jury-room drama Comedy, Panton Street SW1 (0171-369 1731). Mon-Sat, 7 45pm, mats Wed 2,30pm and Sat 4pm

LONG RUNNERS Bluddy: Strand (0171-930 8800)

□ Communicating Doors: Savoy (0171-836 8888)
□ Don't Dress for Dinner Duchress (0171-494 8070)
□ Funny Money Playhouse (0171-839 4-011)
□ Grease: Domnor: (0171-416 8060)
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□ The Mousetrap St Metrin 5 (0171-836 1443) SI Marin s (0171-836 1443)

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UNZIPPED (15) Exuberant



at the Theatr Clayd

Benedict Nightingale on a powerful new play, and a row over theatre unions

Inspector of the thought police

was co-author of My Dinner with Andre, which consisted of a long, impassioned and surprisingly gripping conversation about the meaning of life. He also wrote the excellent Aunt Dan and Lemon, which showed an impressionable girl transformed into a fascist by the

> The Designated Mourner Cottesloe

articulate arrogance of a charismatic relative. So you will not be surprised to hear that Shawn's latest play is highly unconventional, much concerned with matters of politics, culture and human significance — and, if you are prepared to make more mental effort than even the National normally demands, a pretty rewarding piece. In front of a huge mosaic of

tiny gold squares, whose purpose I could not fathom, there is a rough wooden table, whose purpose I could. It rests on orange-boxes packed with books, is itself covered with books, and behind it sit three people whose lives have had rather a lot to do with books. David de Keyser is a rumpled old poet called Howard. Beside him is Miranda Richard-

f you had asked Eliot Ness how he

felt about the kind gentlemen

offering protection to the good folk

of Chicago, he could not have reacted

more robustly than Sir Peter Hall

when the subject of the actors' unions

in Britain and America came up in a

recent chat (Benedict Nightingale writes). "Nauscating". "wicked", "hor-

rible", "a disgrace to the profession",

"awful", "dreadful" were the words

that came pouring from perhaps the

most respected mouth in the English-

speaking theatre. Both Equities need

American actors to London in A

Streetcar Named Desire. Moreover, he

is enraged that, despite regular offers

from America, An Ideal Husband is

the first Peter Hall Company show to

have crossed the Atlantic since Vanessa

Redgrave in Orpheus Descending and

Dustin Hoffman in The Merchant of

Both Equities accept "star" perform-

ers, such as Hoffman or Redgrave,

without demur. But though this catego-

Venice eight years ago.

it's enough.

son as his daughter Judy, directed at you and me. And, looking sleek yet vulnerable. for quite a time, you and I are And beside her is Mike Nichlured into thinking that ols, best known these days as a Shawn's main target is culturdirector but making a rare al pretension and radical chic. return to his thespian roots as It is easy to sympathise with Judy's husband, Jack. Jack's feelings of resentment at Although the characters ochis status as resident lowbrow casionally address each other, in a house where the cognoscenti bewail poverty and suf-David Hare's production

Wallace Shawn's "highly unconventional and pretty rewarding" The Designated Mourner discussing John Donne. You buy his view of de Keyser's effortlessly lordly Howard: which is that he is a supercilious, hypocritical old monster. in whom selfishness, hypo-chondria and incestuous affection have combined to turn Jack and Judy's happy marriage into a wretched one.

This is a playwright who does not just tell you what it is like to be arrested at night by goons or to fall morally apart and become an aimless yet weirdly contented ghost of yourself. He has the originality to make you feel it.

profession where unemployment is high. They also feel that the swapsystem has vastly liberalised things, and some producers agree with them.

Why won't Equity let my show go on?

Miranda Richardson (Judy), Mike Nichols (Jack) and David de Keyser (Howard) in

According to Sir Peter Hall, restrictive unions are stifling the free flow of theatrical talent

their heads banging together," he said. ry may embrace the lead actor in some their countries. Cheek by Jowl could "I've had 30 years of prohibition and dopey television soap, it often excludes major stage performer. Juliet Steven-It might seem odd that Hall should explode right now. Seven of the performance in Death and the Maidoriginal English cast will be in his en to New York. American Equity revival of Wilde's An Ideal Husband denied Billie Whitelaw star status, even though she was acting in plays Beckett when it opens on Broadway next week. wrote for her. British Equity has been But American Equity, which has the similarly sniffy about Mandy Patinkin power of yea and nay in such matters. has allowed this only because Hall is and Patti Lupone. soon to bring Jessica Lange and several

mostly consists of monologues

New York missed Shaffer's Gift of the Gorgon, because Hall, its director did not think an American actor should replace Michael Pennington in the role of an English poet. His revival of Ibsen's Master Builder recently met the same fate. Alan Bates, its Solness, was acceptable to Equity but its Hilde, Victoria Hamilton. was simply a hrilliant newcomer and thus taboo.

There are ways round such embargoes. Both Equities allow foreign "unit" companies to play briefly in

recently bring its Duchess of Malfi to Brooklyn. The trouble, again, is definison could not take her stunning non. The RSC is a unit company, despite a high turnover of actors, but the Peter Hall Company apparently is not. So for Hall and other producers, there is one final recourse: swaps.

Briton A may perform in America if American B performs in Britain. Streetcar balances Ideal Husband. Michael Gambon will appear in New York in David Hare's Skylight despite the insult of being refused star status by American Equity. He and his colead, Lia Williams, are part of an exchange involving Robert Bogue, an American recently seen in London in Burning Blue. On such weird, intricate, time-consuming barter does the fate of plays depend.

Both Equities defend restrictions on the grounds that an alien influx denies advancement to native actors in a

Bill Kenwright, who is sending An Ideal Husband to New York, finds them "terrifically supportive". Robert
Fox. producer of Skylight, says their
officers "are as helpful as possible
without incurring the wrath of their members". But senior practitioners ask why there are limitations on the free

director of the National. "Potty," adds Adrian Noble, his RSC counterpart. And Hall lets rip: "We don't stop American films being made here, we reject books because we've got books of our own. A union ought to be developing talent and promoting creative interchange. A closed shop is defensive and deadening. It makes me terribly angry."

Though the Americans' fear of English invasion makes them the tougher, the British union has its moments too. It recently stopped Hall casting Michael Cherry, a young-Trinidadian he regards as "a bit of a genius", in the Oedipus he is soon to stage at the National. And, as he points out, who suffers? Not just Cherry himself, not just the British theatre, but a figure rather low on both Equities' list of priorities: the spectator, the consumer, you and me.

NCHAEL.

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Disgraceful, says Richard Eyre.

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🖿 POP 2

Jagged emotions and craggy sounds characterise The Sun is Often Out, a fine debut by Longpigs

THE



POP 3

Bob Mould's new album is a dark collection of tunes charged with a desolate set of lyrics



POP 4

The Bluetones share a little of their "air of gentle, joyful abundance" with Caitlin Moran

Weldon traces a novel path

NICK WELDON Lavender's Blue (Verge (001CD) IT MIGHT be over-simplistic to suggest that Nick Weldon, piano-playing son of Fay, shares his mother's gift for storytelling. Jazz and fiction have their own rules, of course, though it is worth noting that some years ago, in the days when the Bass Clef club was still open for business. Weldon Jr presented an eccentric musical interpretation of the novel Puffball, his

That venture yielded mixed results; Lavender's Blue, on

mother taking care of the

JAZZ: ALBUMS

the other hand, is an unqualified triumph. An absorbing trio set, it combines an offbeat selection of tunes - including In The Wee Small Hours of the Morning and Hampton Hawes's Sonora - with unfailingly sensitive group improvisation. From the very first track, the bluesy theme of Mabs and Tucker (taken from the Puffball suite), Weldon resists the temptation to overembellish the strong melodic

In bassist Andrew Cleynderi and drummer Paul Clarvis he has found ideal partners. The Lammas saxophonist Tim Garland also makes a guest appearance, while his colleague Christine Tobin provides scorching vocals on Weldon's title tune. I cannot think of a more enjoyable and artfully sculpted British recording to have come my way in the past year.

JAN GARBAREK Visible World

(ECM 1585) NOBODY could have expected Officium, the ecclesiastical collaboration with the Hilliard Ensemble, to take off so spectacularly. With this smallgroup project, the Norwegian saxophonist retreats to the stark, windswept soundscapes we know so well. The skeletal themes - most of which were drawn from original film and hallet scores - are tastefully executed. A sense of déjà vu lingers nonetheless.

CLIVE DAVIS

NEW RECORDS: David Sinclair finds Dolores O'Riordan's muse too self-righteous Slice of Cranberry pious

SINGLE

KULA SHAKER Grateful When You're Dead/Jerry Was There (Columbia KULACD2) RECENTLY sponed whipping up a storm on dates with the Presidents of the United States of America, Kula Shaker are a four-piece band from London. Picking up the retro-rock baton carried thus far by Ocean Colour Scene, they run like hell with it on their blazing second single, a two-in-one song called Grateful When You're Dead Jerry Was

"If you know your history you will read between the lines," Crispian Mills sings against a fiercely shifting beat. while organist Jay Darlington pastes over the guitar part with the kind of lines not in vogue since the debut albums Santana and Chicago

Transit Authority. The vexed question of whether or not we have heard all this before pales into insignificance in the face of the sheer barnstorming magnifi-cence of the track. Play it

ALBUMS

THE CRANBERRIES To the Faithful Departed

(Island 524 234) ON A strictly musical level, To the Faithful Departed is as good as anything the Cranberries have recorded before. Produced by Bruce Fairbairn. a man more associated with old-school heavyweights such as Aerosmith and Van Halen than with the jangling, indie-pop sound for which the Cranberries are best known. the album has plenty of backbone. On the uptempo single. Salvation, and the rampaging Forever Yellow Skies it rocks convincingly but without forfeiting the gentler, more wistful side of the group's muse with songs such as The Rebels and Free To Decide.

However, on a philosophical and spiritual plane there is a pious undercurrent to Dolores O'Riordan's lyrics. "This album is dedicated to all those who have gone before us," she announces in sleeve notes which marry cloying sentiment to a glibly portentous tone. And if her strident, banshee whoop is beginning to grate, so too is the over-literal verse with which she



Sound investment the Cranberries have turned to stadium-rock producer Bruce Fairbairn

pays respect to her fallen heroes in I Just Shot John Lennon and I'm Still Remembering, the latter a culogy to Kurt Cobain ("Yesterday was cold and bare/Because you were not there").

Further solemn pronouncements on the big issues of the day ensue with War Child and Bosnia, the latter closing the album with a sickly mixture of strings and a child's music box and which could have been a reject from the Mary Poppins soundtrack. Always one to wade in where others would tread more cautiously. O'Riordan is still taking the pop-star trip too seriously both for her own,

and this album's good. LONGPIGS The Sun is Often Out

(Mother 551 542) COULD Longpigs be the new Radiohead? Certainly the Sheffield group's debut album proceeds at the same measured pace and conjures similar extremes of jagged emotion

as those on Radiohead's classic essay in millennium blues, The Bends. Which is enough to make this an exceptional album, no matter how the group fares now.

With songs ranging from the dreamy On and On to the momentous Jesus Christ, the album is built around the craggy guitar chops of Richard Hawley and the pleading vocal acrobatics of Crispin Hunt — a delivery so impassioned that he repeatedly slips into a momentary falsetto like

a nervous tic. A slight Beatles influence

The Score ...

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Dance Nation

L. T. J. Bukem Presents Logical Progression

Artcore — the Art of Drum & Bass ,...
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Once Upon a Time in America

An Instinct for Detection

can be detected on Far, and the dark, swirling ambience of the music as a whole recalls the twisted glamour of Suede at their most forceful. But this is a trailblazing album that stands proudly on its own terms and hints at even great-

er things in store. **BOB MOULD** Bob Mould (Creation CRECD 188)

STILL an inconspicuous personality on the rock landscape, despite a straight run of three Top Ten albums with his now defunct group Sugar, Bob

TOP TEN DANCE ALBUMS

Mould can be found furiously licking his wounds on this, his third and most deeply personal solo album. "Critically acclaimed and publicly defamed/There's nothing I can say about it/Much less I could do about it," he sings with surprising gusto on Art Crisis, one of the more upbeat numtunes freighted with frighteningly desolate, self-lacerating

Fuelled by bitterness, exhaustion and an inner turmoil that seems to be the legacy of both a failed relationship and the disintegration of his band "This one is for me" is his defiant dedication on the sleeve credits), it is an album which makes for distinctly uneasy listening.

Although buoyed by the snappy melodies of Deep Karma Canyon and Fort Knox, King Solomon, it is the violently unhappy sentiments of Roll Over and Die and Hair Stew, where a horrid screeching sound gnaws into the fabric of the song, which leave the more lasting impression.

ELVIS PRESLEY

(RCA/BMG 07863 66817) HIS memory has been subject to some monstrous distortions, but Elvis Presley was the king of rock 'n' roll and here is the reason why. Unlike other compilations from the 1950s. which have tended to cram together vast wodges of hits and/or obscurities, Elvis 56 offers a more manageable snapshot of Presley's best work in the one year it all came good for him, together with basic information and a stunning booklet of behindthe-scenes photographs by Alfred Wertheimer.

Imagine in 40 years' time listening to a compilation called Oasis 95. However dated and familiar the songs right then sound, the vigou and unbridled confidence of the band at that moment would still surely shine through. Presley in 1956 was Oasis to the power of 100, and there is still an unmistakable glory in his performances of Heartbreak Hotel, Hound Dog, Blue Suede Shoes, Rip It Up, Don't Be Cruel and many others that transcends the dated sound of the recordings and continues to evoke a unique sense of wonder.

It is no coincidence that 1956 was also Year Zero for popufar music as we still know and love it today.

Various Artists (FFrr)

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Various Artists (Ministry of Sound

Here come the warm jets

Those nice young Bluetones were expecting to fly, but the take-off speed surprised some of their fans

wind in the right direction and God on your side. Fate will turn your life into a pop video. A friend of mine still goes misty at the recollection of being in Red Square just as the dawn turns the world from endless black to a wash of lilac. and hearing Dubstar's Stars booming from a market stallholder's stereo as he set up for the day. The song lasted exactly the time it takes to walk from the east to the west side of Red Square, while eating an eclair. Had Dubstar thought of it, I'm sure that's the image which would have graced The Chart

ust sometimes, with the

Show two weeks ago. Similarly, had

Bluetones accepted my offer of coming on a driving holiday in Wales in mid-February, they would have realised that the perfect video for their most recent single, Slight Return, would have involved descending an icy

mountain road just as the tape kicked into its Bluetones half-hour, and finding that the clocks were two months fast in the valleys of Snowdonia — a sudden, unexpected spring of tiny, hyperactive lambs, rainbows, swollen becks

and blossoms so profuse it seemed as if the clouds had got tangled in the branches of the trees. All Bluetones records have this air of gentle, joyful abundance, with their sweet, circular guitars and confident, comforting harmonies: secure in the untroubled beauty of lines like "There's no heart you can't melt with a certain little smile".

The only strident or ruthless facet to the Bluetones is their unerring pop sensibility - II perfect slices of post-Stone Roses gorgeousness on a debut album that went straight in at No 1. The Bluetones are the band least likely to go missing, go dead, or insist that their pet penguin be called "Sir" at all times. The Bluetones, it

seems, have no problems. "The Bluetones problem is that they keep coming up with these hugely expensive and tricky images," the band's press woman mockgrumbles. "Because they called the album Expecting To Fly, I had to spend the three months getting per-mission to stand on freezing runways while photographers snapped them stand-

ing in front of Boeing 747s. I wish they'd called it Expecting to Drive. Or Expecting to Walk Through Somewhere Like Deptford.

The Bluetones problem is that everyone expects us to be punching each other." Mark Morris, the lead singer, explains. "Cos it's me and my brother in the band, everyone thinks we're going to be like Liam and Noël Gallagher - hitting each other over the head with bricks, and trying to chuck each other in swimming pools. I think my brother's cool - I'm not going to hit him. Unless he's very annoying."

No. no. no. Scott Morriss chimes in. Bluetones' problem is that

no one realises we have talents in other areas -I, for instance, am the king of breakdancing." "You're all wrong," second

guitarist Adam

wades in. "The CAITLIN MORAN

Bluetones' problem is that Scott has revolutionised the catering industry with his Baked Bean Pies, and still hasn't got the rewards he deserves.

"No, to be serious for exactly" - Mark Morriss looks at his watch - "one minute and four seconds. one of the problems we have had is that, up until four months ago, we'd got to where we were without any press, television or radio coverage - that old wordof-mouth thing happened, and we had a dedicated band of people who had followed us around the country, skipping rail fares and kipping on mates' solas to see us live.

Then, when we got into the charts and started being interviewed all over the place, it was like a barrier had been put berween us. Before, if someone wanted to know what a lyric meant, they'd come up to us after the gig and ask. Now they read all this stuff in the press which is just a journalist's opinion, but because it's in black and white it looks like the Bible. And it's not. So that's The Bluetones' problem - what was personal and secret is now impersonal and on the cov-

er of magazines. "But that's OK. We'll just make the music even sweeter and stronger, and people will still get the message." • The single Cut Some Rug is released on Monday by Superior Quality

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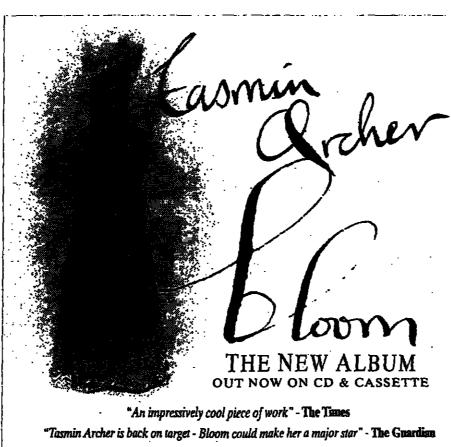


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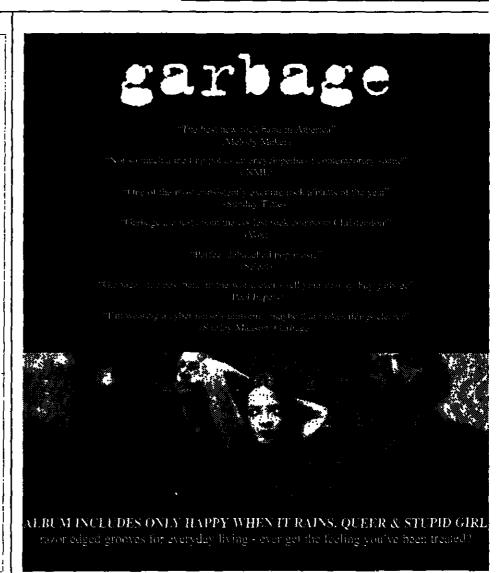
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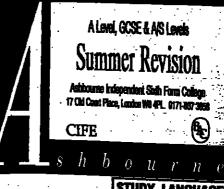
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EDUCATION

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Girl and boy choristers may not,

after all, sound that different

🕇 an you tell the difference between the sounds made by girl and boy choristers? Many organists and directors of cathedral choir schools think they can, which is perhaps why it has taken so long for choirs to open their doors to girls. Boys' voices are purer, stronger, more intense, say those who know about such things, whereas girls' voices are lighter and breathier.

"A boy's voice in the year or so before it breaks has a particularly magical quality to it," says David Flood, organist at Canterbury Cathedral, one of the most traditional choir schools in England. "It is more powerful than a girl's." Female voices do not reach their peak until much later, Mr Flood says.

However, researchers at the Roehampton Institute, Lon-don, have found otherwise. When asked to identify from audiotapes whether a choir was male, female or mixed, the expert choirmasters often

got it wrong.

The study, by Professor
Graham Welch and his colleagues, entailed taping 15 choirs singing the first verse of the carol This is the Truth Sent From Above. The recording of each choir appeared three times on a single tape, so each expert had 45 examples to

Professor Welch, Dean of Education at Rochampton who will take part in a panel at the Choir Schools Association conference at Wells Cathedral School, Somerset, next week -says: "We found that most of the time people were very certain, but that they were often very wrong."

In fact the experts got their judgments right more often than wrong, but there was a good deal of error. They were consistently wrong as well as consistently right." Professor Welch says. "There was no clear pattern." Some cathedral choirs were rated uniformly as being very boylike and they were in fact boys choirs. Others were all-male cathedral choirs but were judged to be female. And there were two girls' choirs which were almost always classified as

Why was that? The academics found a clear correlation between male sounding girls choirs and the fact they were trained by a choirmaster from

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a cathedral choir school, "Girls' choirs trained by men in the cathedral choir tradition produced girls' choirs that sang in the way that litted their stereotype." Professor Welch says. "If you want boys to sound like boys, they can. If you want them to sound like girls, they can. Equally, if you want girls to sound like boys,

they can.
"So the sound that boys or girls make to a certain extent is socially constructed. Therefore, if you don't want to have girls in a cathedral choir it's for social and cultural reasons. not for musical ones. It certainly doesn't seem to be for acoustic ones."

Not all members of the choir school world are surprised at the findings. The banle is now won," says Richard Shep-



Boys - but do they sound it?

herd, Headmaster of the Minster School in York, which is taking 21 girl choristers for the first time this autumn. His will be the fifth school in the 39-strong membership of the Choir Schools Association to

having girls in choirs went, he says, after Salisbury began to take girls in 1991. The social argument that boys will desert any choir that contains girls is scaremongering, he adds.

However, most choir school heads establish separate boys and girls choirs when they do go' coeducational. Thus, the girl choristers at York are singing separately from the boys, just as they do at Salisbury and other places. Edinburgh is the only one to have set up a mixed choir.

LUCY HODGES

Classes in the front room

Simon Midgley

on why some

parents prefer to

children at home

teach their

s experts agonise over the carliest moment at which a child can safely begin nurs-A ery classes, thousands of families have opted for the opposite approach. About 20,000 school-age children are being educated at home. Isobel Bogucki's eldest son, Michacl, 15, has never been to school. Neither has his sister Helen, 12, nor

his brother Martin, . Beverley Young's daughter, Cassie, l. was withdrawn from primary school after five months, three years ago. She has never returned. Her younger brother Alexander, 4, will not be going to school either.

The children are part of a growing trend. Although precise numbers are hard to come by Dr Roland Meighen, of Nottingham University, believes that as many as 10,000 families are taking the do-it-yourself option. The Department for Education and Employment knows of about 7,000 children in England who are not being taught in schools.

Education Otherwise, a national support group for parents dissatisfied with state and private education. says that about 80 families a month express an interest in educating their children at home. Twenty years ago there were just ten families in England and Wales who were educating their children at home. In Victorian times, it was not

unusual for the children of the well-

to-do and upper classes to be taught by a tutor or governess. Now, however, children from all backgrounds are being home-educated. There are many reasons why parents choose to teach their own children. Some do it for philosophical or religious reasons, others to escape bullying or because their children have special educational needs they are perhaps dyslexic, school phobic or especially bright. Schools may variously be thought to be too formal, progressive or strict.

In Britain anyone can educate their children at home - while education is compulsory, school is not. Parents are not obliged to notify any authority The musical objection to | if a child is to be taught at home after



his or her fifth birthday. If parents withdraw a child already in school, however, they must inform the school, which must in turn tell the

local education authority. Beverley Young, a 32-year-old registered childminder from Preston, Lancashire, says she and her husband, David, a delivery driver, decided to withdraw their daughter from the local primary school because she was not getting enough individual attention. Cassie, who was reading fluently when she went to school just after turning four, became bored in reception class after being forced to read baby books.

Mrs Young was not happy either about peer pressures in the playground. She became very streetwise. All the magic seemed to have been lost. I just wanted to allow her a little

bit more time to grow up slowly." Isobel Bogucki, a former chemistry and physics teacher, from Horsham, West Sussex, did not enjoy her grammar school and became increasingly disillusioned with education in schools while she was a teacher. "What the children needed and what we were doing for them did not

match up. They were getting facts to

pass exams, they were not following

up their interests outside school." Mrs Bogucki says: "When Michael was born I looked at him and thought He is going to grow up and go through that system and I felt really sad. We never came to a decision not to send him, we thought we would think about it and just kept on

thinking about it." In the event, Michael has never been to school. He, his sister Helen, and younger brother Martin have been home-educated by Mrs Bogucki. From the beginning she adopted an unstructured approach. While she read to her children, writing and mathematics evolved out of play and learning through every-

Computation might be learnt through counting buns, working out how fast the car was travelling or noting changes in temperatures. "I let their interests lead them. Sometimes they need to learn things in order to do other things, but the main reason for learning is because you are interested.

y experiences.

"I don't believe there is any set time you should know a certain set of facts by. Learning new things continues throughout life." Mrs Bogucki regards herself as an

organises of resources and a learning facilitator. "I just my to expose them to what is available and what is possible and they can take up things which appeal to them. The fact that they reject something this week does not mean that they won't be interested in it next week.

Education is not what you know. It's how you behave when you don't know and need to find out. Children at home don't have to pretend they know things and don't need to be insecure about not knowing."

It is difficult to know how to measure the success of her efforts. Michael started to write when he was five. Helen is only now getting interested in learning to spell correctly, Martin wrote for the first time at the age of eight last year but is still not very interested in writing.

er husband Bob, a chemical engineer, sometimes has doubts about home . education when he would like to see more formal written work. Their West Sussex local education authority, which inspects what Mrs Bogucki is doing three times a year, is not, she says, altogether convinced by her informal methods.

Michael says: "I think home education is good for some people, not necessarily for everyone. I find it good. I like it in the sense that I don't have to stick to the national curriculum and learn what the teachers say I have to learn. At the moment I'm reading about quantum physics and

Einstein's theory of relativity."

Dr Meighen says that research in America and case studies in Britain suggest that if a family sustains home-based education for two years, they can normally expect their children to be about two years ahead of their contemporaries at school. At the top end of the scale, they could be ten years ahead and at the bottom no better or worse than contemporaries.

Where conditions are appropriate. he says, children can learn to read in 30 hours. They can be prepared for GCSE mathematics in 60 hours. Other studies, he adds, suggest that home-educated children are more socially mature and emotionally stable than their school-based contemporaries who are dependent on peers

for language, attitudes and taste. Home educators do what they do more efficiently, Dr Meighen says. They often offer one-to-one learning, direct access to resources, a friendly learning environment and children don't have to waste time travelling back and forth to school.

Dymphna Byrne finds that holidays can be the best time to take a course that will broaden your knowledge

dressed and older than typical undergraduates - and the tubs of flowers and hanging baskets brightening Lancaster's rather severe modern campus gave it away. We were leisure learners, up for just a week during the summer. My simply furnished study bedroom was more in tune with student life: single bed, desk, wardrobe and drawers. Bathrooms and a

small kitchen were along the

We followed various subjects, from brushing up our Italian conversation — French is old hat - to mastering the Alexander Technique - selfawareness is in. Silversmithing, walking the fells and creative writing were among two dozen options. Supervised activities for four to eight-year-olds and Summer Fun for the eight-to-14s left parents free to follow their

own courses. People take summer courses for mental stimulation and pleasure. They are rarely dis-appointed. Vitality is the key. Whether you go alone, with a friend or couple or family, you will be engrossed; age and status are irrelevant. A 60-plus widow at Lancaster, initially intimidated by the swirl, decided to return. A couple of Summer Academy groupies at



Durham, friends in their early fifties, had taken a course every year since 1986. Tuition is high-calibre, from college lecturers, teachers, tutors from adult education classes and outside experts for specialist subjects. Spacious grounds and other amenities are at the disposal of summer students. Evening entertainment at most summer schools ranges from dances, discos and jazz to rambles, concerts and debates. There is usually a bar on

campus. The following round-up shows what is available. Prices are per person per week and, unless stated, include tuition and lodging.

UNIVERSITIES

Summer Academy: 13 British and Irish universities run 83 courses under four headings - Heritage, Countryside, the Arts, Personal Development. From June 29 to August 31, £340 to £390. Summer Academy. Keynes College, the University, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NP (01227 470402). Lancaster: Courses related to

the area - Victorian Lanca-



Putting their art into it: a class at Millfield School

Britain, the Reformation and the Monasteries are popular. The Lake District campus. Ambleside runs from July 1 to 12. Lancaster from July 29 to August 2, board and lodging E188-E290, course fees E65-£139; reductions for children. Summer Studies, Lancaster University, Storey Institute, Lancaster LAI ITH (01524

Exeter: Morning-only courses

or en-suite single rooms with some doubles, adults £249-£299, children £195-£235. University of Exeter, Domestic Services Division, Devonshire House, Stocker Road, Exeter, Devon EX4 4PZ (01392 215566).

Nottingham: courses include The Glory of the Garden, Computing for the Terrified and Keys to Happiness. From July 20 to 27, £285-£350. Single

Leisure, University of Nottingham, 14 Shakespeare Street. Nottingham NG1 4FQ (01159 St Andrews: Courses mainly

with a Scottish theme. Single or double rooms from June 22 to August 17.

£199-£325, St Andrews University Holidays, 66 North Street, St Andrews, Fife KYl6 9AH (01334 462202). Stirling: Five-day and week-

end courses. Stirling is noted for its music courses - from bagpipes and fiddles to Baroque. The campus on the beautiful Airthrey estate, an hour's drive from Glasgow and Edinburgh. From June 23 to August 17, £74-£268. Summer Šchool Office, Airthrey Castle Annexe, University of Stirling, Stirling FK9 4LA (0)786 467951).

Glamorgan: Week-long choices from July 21 to August Tuition fees £110. Accommodation only (single en-suite rooms) £52 a week, full board £110 a week. University of Glamorgan, Pontypridd, Mid Glamorgan, CF37 IDL (01443

St Aidan's College, Durham: This new venture by the

Durham University college is a holiday rather than a study course. Tours, walks, visits to stately homes, castles. From July 6 to September 14, £299 standard room, £359 ensuite. The Northumbria Experience, St Aidan's College, University of Durham, Windmill Hill, Durham DHI 3LJ (0191-374

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

Millfield: A choice of 330 courses under the headings of Sport, Art, Culture, Educational and Fun. From July 29 to August 16. Course fees £70-El80, children E70-£95. Accommodation and full board £150-E170, children from E99. Millfield Village of Education, Street, Somerset BAI6 0YD (01458 445823).

Marlborough College: 50 new courses this year, from fly-fishing to botany for gardeners. From July 14 to August 3, adults £82-£185, children £48-£150, accommodation £100-£165. Discounts for families and senior citizens. Marlborough College Summer School, Mariborough, Wiltshire SN8 IPA (01672 892388). Taunton School: Wide range of subjects for adults and children, From July 28 to August 17, £225-£345. Taunton Summer School, Somerset TAZ 6AD (01823 349243).

from August 4 to 10. Standard shire, the Romans in Northern study bedrooms. Learn at Second chance in the Valleys

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7 hen it was launched in 1993, the Community University of the Valleys - designed to breathe new life into an area devastated by unemployment — was regarded by many as an experiment that was worthy but had little prospect of success. This week, however, it has proved the doubters wrong

by announcing major expan-sion. Swansea University's Department of Adult Continuing Education, the founder, is being joined in a new partnership by the Open University and Glamorgan University. A second chance in education will be extended from the western Valleys right across the former South Wales coalfield.

Swansea's intention, when it created the Community University, was to regenerate depressed Valley communities by meeting local people's A 'community university' is a success, despite initial doubts

demands for more education and training.
The university opened its doors at Banwen village, in the Dulais Valley, in a build-ing converted by the European Community. A creche was provided for the stu-dents children.

Two and a half years on. Banwen has 50 students enrolled on its part-time degree courses, studying topics as diverse as modern Wales and the environment. And this summer the first intake will be taking their Part I examinations before doing three years more study to obtain the ten credits they will need

for their degree. Since Banwen opened, Swansea has established satellite centres in the Gwendraeth Valley and Maesteg, enabling more students to embark on courses. It has also established a foundation year, teaching study skills and offering taster courses.

From the beginning, however. Swansea has focused on humanities and social science courses. Soon the entire curriculum should be

Under the Glamorgan scheme, students build up credits as they study. They can acquire a certificate of higher education after 30 weeks, a diploma in 60 weeks and a degree in 90.

The credit system has enabled the universities to establish their partnership. The Community University recognises credits or passes

achieved at any of the three. As a result, someone with sufficient Open University credits could go straight to Part II of the Swansea course. A part-time student from Banwen could use Swansea's credits towards a diploma or degree from Gla-The expectation is that

successful students will receive their degrees from the institution that awards them the greatest number of credits. But the Community University is working towards establishing degree schemes that can be awarded jointly by two or more institutions.

The Community University has come a long way in two and a half years. But it acknowledges that more needs to be done, particularly to attract long-term unem-

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Solicitors acted for purchaser and lender When business ceased for

Society v May May & Merrimans and Others Before Mr Justice Chadwick

[Judgment April 16] When a solicitor acted for a purchaser and also for the lender providing finance for a property purchase, and received money representing the advance prior to completion, he held that money in trust for the lender. He was in breach of trust if he parted with the money in a manner which was contrary to his instructions or after failure to disclose to the lender facts which his retainer required

him to disclose. A lender would not normally be entitled to summary judgment in a case of non-disclosure, because the lender had also to show that his loss would not have occurred but for the breach, and there was therefore a triable issue as to whether or not he would have proceeded with the transaction if full disclosure had been made.

However, when the solicitor received the money from the lender after a request based on a warranty or representation by the solicitor which he knew, or ought to have known, was likely to be entitled to challenge the lender's claim that he would not have proceeded with the transaction but for the warranty or representation. in such a case the lender was entitled to summary judgment. Mr Justice Chadwick so held in

the Chancery Division when giving a combined judgment in cases brought by the Bristol and West Building Society against 13 defen-dant solicitors. Some of the cases were appeals from decisions of district judges on applications for summary judgement under Order 14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court 1965, others were de novo applications under Order 14

Mr Michael Burton, QC, Mr Paul Lowenstein, Mr Timothy Higginson. Mr William Bojczuk and Mr Christopher Semken for the society; Mr Nicholas Davidson, QC. Mr Patrick Lawrence and Miss Elizabeth Weaver for the defendant solicitors.

MR JUSTICE CHADWICK said that the actions arose out of loans made between 1988 and 1991 by the plaintiff building society for the purchase of domestic property. During those years the price of tic property had been rising steeply and there was a widely held belief that it would continue to

The society was an active lender in that market and loans equivalent to 90 per cent or more of the nurchase price were not unusual. Several of the horrowers defaulted on repayment, and when the property market collapsed and house prices fell, the proceeds of sale of the repossessed properties

Divisional Directors

Based in Cambridg

cover the borrowers' indebtedness. There was little hope of recovering the shortfall from the borrowers and the society sought to make recovery from the defendant

The 13 cases represented only 2 small proportion of those commenced by the society against solicitors. Although each turned on its own facts they were heard together since there were common elements in the terms on which the solicitors were retained, and in view of the number of cases commenced some reasonably comprehensive guidance was necessary as to the way in which the court was to approach applications for summary judgment. The Solic-itors Indemnity Fund stood behind the individual defendant solicitors. and in effect the dispute was

between the society and the fund. It was a common feature of the cases that the society instructed the borrower's solicitor to act in relation to the taking of its security. The borrower gave the name of his solicitor to the society when he applied for an advance.

If the application was approved the society sent a copy of its offer to the solicitor, together with instruc-tions inviting the solicitor to act on instructions the solicitor became solicitor to the parties on each side of the lending transaction.

The society made no direct payment to the borrower but paid

the amount of the advance to the solicitor for the purpose of enabling the purchase of the property to be completed. The moneys received by the solicitor from the society for the purpose of a mortgage loan were held by the solicitor upon trust for the society. to the society's standard terms and solicitors' letter requiring them, the title, prepare the mortgage deed and advise the society immediately of any discrepancy or variation in the details of the

An uncompleted printed form Report on title and request for advance cheque" was sent to the solicitor. It had to be completed and signed by him, confirming that the details of the transaction accorded exactly with the particulars in the society's offer of advance and the solicitor's instructions. If that document was completed to ety sent the solicitor its cheque for the advance.

In some cases the society alleged there were breaches of the obligation to investigate and report on title to the properties to be mortgaged. But in most cases the conduct complained of was that the solicitor knew of some fact, not relevant to the title, which would or might have influenced a lender

His Lordship referred to Target Holdings Ltd v Redferns ([1995] 3 WLR 352) in which the House of Lords accepted that a trustee who wrongly paid away trust money committed a breach of trust and came under an immediate duty to remedy that breach; but the ouanrum of compensation was fixed, at the date of judgment, as the figure then necessary to put the beneficiary into the position he would have been in had there been no breach. .

Equitable compensation was designed to make good the loss in fact suffered by the beneficiaries and which, using hindsight and common sense, could be seen to have been caused by the breach.

The present cases raised a question which it had been uncessary for the House of Lords to address directly in Target: where the breach lay in paying over the mortgage money at a time when the solicitors knew of a matter which ought to be reported to the lender prior to completion, what would have happened in the

It was submitted on behalf of the dictors that in order to keep faith with the approach in Target the have happened if the solicitors had done all that they were required to do, namely to disclose the relevant matter and to seek authority to proceed

If the society would have decided to proceed with the loan notwithstanding the matters dis-closed, then, it was submitted, that the breach of trust had caused no

His Lordship said that that submission was difficult to reconcile with the Court of Appeal's decision in Bishopsgate Invest-ment Management Ltd v Maxwell (No 2) ([1994] I All ER 261), where endam, Mr Ian Maxwell. was held to be in breach of fidociary duty in executing stock transfers without the authority of a board resolution to a company

controlled by his father. The court did not think it relevant to consider what would have happened if the defendant had refused, as he should have, to sign the transfers, although that was pre-eminently a case in which the answer to such an investigation might well have been that the transfers would have been made anyway on transfer forms signed by other directors.

It would, it seemed to his Lordship, be a strange principle of equity which allowed a solicitor who, in breach of his duty of good faith, gave his client a warranty which he knew to be false, intending that his client should act upon it, to say in answer to a claim for compensation for the resulting loss that his client must establish that

the solicitor did not disclose to the had known the true facts. After all to report some matter to the a common reason for knowingly giving a false warranty was the fear that without the false warranty the lender would refuse to

> His Lordship referred to a principle identified by Lord Thankerton in a decision of the Privy Council on appeal from the Supreme Court of Canada, Brickenden v London Loan and Savings Co (1934) 3 DLR 465). namely that where a licturiary had failed to disclose material facts he could not be heard to say that disclosure would not have altered the decision to proceed with the transaction.

It was accepted that the Target decision was inconsistent with the Brickenden principle in its application to cases of paying over money in breach of instructions, but it did not follow that the principle had to be treated as overruled by Target in cases where the breach of duty lay in the giving of a false warranty or representation for the purpose of obtaining the advance cheque. The decision in Target was not directed to that question. The cases fell into three main

I The first was where his Lordship was satisfied on the facts that the defendant solicitors had received the mortgage money from the society in response to a request based upon a warranty or representation which the defendant solicitors knew, or must be taken to have known, to be

For example, in one of those form the society that the effect of a special condition in the purchase contract was that the purchase price was £1,000 less than the price ecified in the society's offer advance

it had been misleading for the solicitor to confirm to the society that the details of the transaction accorded exactly with the particulars in the society's offer of advance and the solicitor's instructions.

In that group of cases his Lordship was of the view that the Brickenden principle applied, so that it was unnecessary to try the question whether the society would have made the advance if it had been told the true facts. That question was irrelevant. Accordingly, the society was

entitled to judgment in those cases, namely those where the defendant licitors were May May Merrimans, London WCI; Chal-mers Hunt & Gisby, Ware; Mr Anthony R. White, Broxbourne; Pillai Hassan & Corbin, London El and Mr Peter Sturgess, Mr Michael O'Neill and Mr Nigel Jeremy all of London Wi.

2 In the second group of cases the alleged breach of duty did not consist of a misleading warranty or representation, but of a failure

But in that group, unlike the first, the society had also to prove that it would not have proceeded with the transaction if the matter

dant firms: Bower Cotton & er, London EC4; Leftley Blackwell. Harrow (save as to £3,433 with interest, in respect of which the society was entitled to judg-ment, the Simkins Partnership. London WI: Dalas Brett, Oxford and George H. Coles & Co. Hove. 3 The third group of cases consisted of those in which his Lordship was satisfied on the facts that the defendants ought to have unconditional leave to defend because the alleged breach of duty consisted of a failure to make inquiries or to report facts to the society but it was not clear that the defendants ought to have realised that they should have made those inquiries or reported those lacts. Therefore, there was some issue

in dispute which ought to be tried in relation to liability. Those involved the defendant firms Alan Budd & Co, Luton; Fancy & Jackson, Ashford, Middlesex; and Bhadresa & Co, East Ham.

Solicitors: Osborne Clarke, Bristol; Eversheds, Bristol, Veale Wasborough, Bristol and Pinsent

Capital and Counties plc and

Another v Hampshire Coun-

Before Judge Richard Havery, QC

A fire brigade was liable for the

negligent act of one of its officers in ordering that a sprinkler system in a burning building be turned off.

The brigade was not immune from

liability to the owner of the

building on the ground of public

Judge Richard Havery, QC, so held when sitting on official ref-

eree's business he gave judgment

for the plaintiffs, Capital and Counties plc and Digital Equip-

ment Company Ltd, against

Hampshire County Council for

damages to be assessed resulting

from the destruction by fire of The

Crescent, Jays Close, Basingstoke of which the first and second

plaintiffs were the head lessee and

ty Council

Undersent March 28

society. In those cases, his Lordship was satisfied that the society was entitled to succeed on the issu of liability in that the payment on completion was made in breach of

its instructions. Before Sir Richard Scott, Vice-[Judgment April 19]

in question had been reported to it. it was not appropriate to determine that issue on summary judgment and the defendants should therefore have unconditional leave to defend on the issue of causation. Those cases involved the defen-

which subsequently transpired to be permanent was to have no effect on the decision of that issue. Sir Richard Scott, Vice-Chancellor, so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division when allowing an appeal brought by way of case stated by the taxpaayer, Mr Keith F. Marriott, from Paignton general commissioners who had refused his claim to the relief under section 69 of the Finance Act 1985, see now section 163 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, and dismissed his appeal against an assessment to the tax for 1989-90 in the sum of £158.649 in respect of the disposal of land and buildings. The Torbey Aircraft Museum.

> Section 69 of the 1985 Act provides for relief "(1) ... in any case where a material disposal of business assets is made by an individual, who at the time of the disposal — (a) has attained the age

assets is . . . (b) a disposal of one or more assets which, at the time at

Fire brigade liable to owner

Mr John Slater, QC, Mr Simon

Brown, QC and Mr Alexander Antelme for the first plaintiff: Mr John Slater, QC, Mr Nigel Tozzi

and Mr Alexander Gunning for

the second plaintiff; Mr James Monby, QC and Mr Robert

HIS LORDSHIP said the plain-

tiff's main complaint in the action

was that a fire officer at the scene

had ordered the shutting down of a

sprinkler system serving the most

space of the building. The officer

concerned had without justifica-

tion concluded that the system did

Mr Munby had submitted that

the brigade was immune from

action on the ground of public

policy by analogy with the position

In his Lordship's judgment,

v Oxford (1993) 4 All FR 375

Beecroft for the council.

not serve the roof space.

For the purposes of claiming

retirement relief from capital gains

tax a taxpaver was to be taken as

having ceased to carry on his

business on the date when the

cessation took place. His intention

at that time that the cessation

should only be temporary but

tax purposes Marriott v Lane (Inspector of Taxes) carried on, were in use for the purposes of that business.

"(4) A disposal of assets ... is a material disposal if - ... (c) the date on which the business ceased to be carried on falls within the permitted period before the date of

the disposal." Paragraph 1(2) of Schedule 20 to the Act defines "permitted period" as "a period of one year".

Mr Jeremy Woolf for the tax-payer, Mr Timothy Brennan for the Crown.

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR said that the Torbay Aircraft Museum, owned by the taxpayer, born in 1928, was used by Torbay Aviation Ltd. a company of which the taxpayer was a director and majority shareholder.

The museum was closed to the public in October 1988. It never reopened, nor was its business resumed elsewhere its premises were disposed of for residential development on September 28.

whether for section 69 purposes the museum's business had cea to be carried on by September 28, 1989. The commissioners found that it had not. Their findings on that critical issue were that it had not been the intention of the directors of the company at the end of October 1988 for the museum to close permanently or to cease

Mr Woolf had accepted that at time of closure no final determination that the husiness taken. He had accented too, that

specifically referable to the m-

vestigation and suppression of

crime did not apply with anything

like the same force to the fire-

fighting activities of a fire brigade.

lead to fire-fighting being carried on a defensive frame of mind.

Decisions made on site in fighting

a fire were entirely operational and

did not require decisions on ques-

tions of priority in the allocation of

resources between one fire and

The fire brigade's exclusive con-

trol of its operations was a consid-

eration against immunity on the ground of public policy and it was

air, just and reasonable that a

Solicitors: Cameron Markby

Hewitt: Mr Peter Robertson,

duty of care to owners of burning

property should exist

Winchester.

another.

Potential liability was unlikely to

up to and beyond the date of the disposal on September 1989 the same state of mind had pertained, the continuing intention of re-commencing the aircraft museum. at new premises at some time in the future.

Mr Woolf said, however, that the case did fall within section 69: whatever the intention was in the period October 1988 to September 28, 1989, and notwithstanding the intention of resuming business at new premises at some time, the fact of the matter was that business never was resumed. Looked at with hindsight, he submitted, it could be seen that the closure of the museum in October 1988 did in fact. represent the cessation of business.

Mr Brennan emphasised the mportance of the intention during the relevant period not to close or to cease trading.

His Lordship said that authorities for guidance as to the approach to be adopted to a determination of the question whether there had been a cessation of company's business had been referred to: Kirk and Randali Ltd v Dunn ((1924) 8 TC 663); Wild v Madame Tussaud's Ltd ((1926) 17 TC 127); Ingram and Sons Ltd v Callaghan (1969) 1 WLR 456) and ston Brickworks Ltd v IRC (1976) STC 329)

But it was a common feature of all those cases that the original business had been followed by a new business. The present case was different. A new business did not follow. The business was never

The intention of the directors that the closure should only be temporary should not have the same significance and importance as the like intention in the cited

If an intended temporary cessa tion of business was not followed by a resumption of business, the intention was not fulfilled and the intended temporary cessation would turn out to have been

if, in such a case, the question was posed "when did the business cease to be carried on?" the only possible answer was that it ceased to be carried on when the cessation, intended to be temporary but transpiring to be permanent, took If trade was closed down on a

basis intended to be only tentporary but that became in the event permanent, the date for section 69 purposes when the trade ceased to be carried on was the date on which the trade was closed

Solicitors: Anstey Sargent & Probert, Exerer, Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

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The Times continues its ex-clusive coverage of the 1996 Flora London Marathon with the names of competi-tors who finished inside 5

seconds. The results are provided by Unisys, official suppliers of computers to the race. The names and times of the other finishers will be continued tomorrow. Cornell S.01:17; J Fisher S.01:18; S. Cole S.01:19; P. Cole S.01:19; A. Simpson S.01:19; P. Cole S.01:19; A. Simpson S.01:19; Moffai S.01:19; J. Samoulon S.01:19; B. Morrissey S.01:20; C. Hancock S.01:20; C. Shaw S.01:21; A. Thomas S.01:21; C. Elton S.01:21; E. Billingion S.01:21; D. English S.01:22; J. Travis S.01:22; C. Delghan S.01:23; G. Harri S.01:23; J. Biunucil S.01:23; J. Troon S.01:23; W. Kesby S.01:24; M. Monimer S.01:25; R. Irons S.01:26; R. Davies S.01:26; G. Rawlings S.01:26; R. Brown S.01:26; A. McCabe S.01:26; G. Rawlings S.01:26; R. Brown S.01:26; A. McCabe S.01:26; G. Rawlings S.01:26; G. Rawlings S.01:26; R. Brown S.01:27; S. Rawlings S.01:26; R. Brown S.01:26; R. Rawlings S. Rawlings

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Paul leads by youthful example

THERE is more to the elfinfeatured Robbie Paul than meets the eye. He cut his first record recently, writes songs, paints, is a student of fine art, teaches children about healthy living and, tomorrow, will lead Bradford Bulls as the youngest captain at Wembley in a rugby league Challenge Cup final. Everything, it seems, but sit on a mushroom, where he looks to belong.

Few have packed as much as Paul, a New Zealander, into 20 years and three months. He has two daughters - Iesha, two, and Mia, five months and a young man coping with such responsibilities was quickly made central to the plans at Bradford of Brian Smith, the Australian coach, who awarded him the dual role of scrum half and captain. Until Smith's arrival, Paul had tried in vain to convince Peter Fox, his predecessor, surviving on a thin ration of first-team appearances.

To me, it was like stumbling on an undiscovered Smith said. "I can't remember a kid like him. Selfaware, totally together, who has rugby league as his pas-sion, while knowing it's his meal ticket. He's not yet the finished article as a player, but he's one with very special

Paul was initially uncertain about his future under Smith. "At the start of the centenary season, I was one of five New Zealanders, "he said. "One by one, they went until there were all these Aussies around me. There were two ways to take it. I thought I'd just stamp my mark, Brian liked it and things have not been going too bad since."

Growing up in the Auckland suburb of Te Atutu, Robbie and Henry Paul, his older brother now at Wigan, would sneak out of bed to watch the Challenge Cup live from the other side of the world. Henry won there last year and his advice to his sibling is straightforward: "An early touch of the ball, an early tackle and don't look up



Paul, revelling in the captain's role, looks forward to the cup final yesterday. Photograph: John Houlihan

wind out of the tackle has become a family trademark, but, whereas Henry is the opportunist par excellence in exploiting opposition weaknesses, the stripling Robbie, 5ft 10in and 122st, is a more structured player, who finds gaps for others by a change of direction, shake of the hips or

supremely-judged pass.
With Robbie over a jittery early period before settling into the scrum half position that he previously played at school, the prospect for New Zealand of both Paul brothers lining up at half back is more than just intriguing. Like brothers do. they fought, but, having settled in England,

It was a fingers and thumbs performance by Robbie when the brothers met in Bradford's game away to Wigan a week ago. St Helens will be hoping for the same at Wembley, but captain - Shaun Edwards

Bradley what to do," he said. "He's been around the game long enough to know what's The label of the youngest

The Challenge Cup will continue to be televised by the BBC for the next three years under a reported £3 million deal struck with the Rugby Football League in which the springtime date of the final is retained. A move to mid-summer in line with the new Super League had been mooted. The agreement gives Sky Television the right to show highlights for the first time.

are likely to be disappointed by a young man who takes his captain's duties seriously. responsibility is shared. "If we're behind the sticks. I can't tell Graeme

was 21 years and six months when he led Wigan to victory in 1988 - is one that someone who has been forced to grow up early is undaunted by. Indeed, Paul speaks like some-

one much older. "People my age perhaps like to get on the drink or party, but I just get on with the job, because I've got two mouths to feed," he said.

To the children who go to Odsai to hear Paul's antidrugs message, advice on good health and his cultural lessons, the player not that much older than themselves has become a role model at a club that, only a year ago, did not really bother with the diverse community around it. was with some regret that he had to drop out of a course at Dewsbury Art College because of Smith's demands on his players' time, but, on and off the field, Paul contin-

AUSTRALIAN RULES AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE (AFL), Colleg-acodd 17 15 (117) bt Essendon 16 9 (105).

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Minnesota 24 Detroit 11: Boston 11 Texas 9, California 4 Minrautine 3, New York 10 Cleveland 8, Cakland 7 Toronto 6; Chicago 2 Sezifle 1, Beltimore 11 Kansas Coy B NATIONAL LEAGUE: Pitisturigh 6 Flonda 3 Montreal 7 Cincinnati 6, St. Louis 9 New York 4, Colorado 8 Philadelphia 10; San Francisco 2, Atlanta 8; Los Angeles 5 Houston 2; San Diego 5 Chicago 4.

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SEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier di-vision: Newport AFC 0 Merthyr 0. Saksbury 0 Flushden and Diamonds 2, VS Rugby 1 Crawley Town 4
UNBBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Hyde United 1 Guiseley 1. First division: Farsley Celte 3 Netherheld 1. Postponed: Worksop v Ashtron United. AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Crystal Palace 1 Wimbledon 3; Millwall 2 Chariton 0; Queens Park Rangers 4 Bristol Cay 2. Official correction: Swindon 1 Norwich 3.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First di-

SCHOOLS MATCH: English Reed Tro-phy; Hampshire 3 Dorset 0. GERMAN LEAGUE: Hamburg 2 Bayer Leverlusen 2. THE NET THAT ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Play-offs: First round: Eastern Conference: Floride 4 Boaton 2 (Florida lead best-of-seven series 3-0); Washington 2 Pittsburgh 3 (series tied

Invanor, was can be shuarding with a Pagham 1.

Winstone Ad Kent League: First division: Canierbury 1 Thamesmeed 2; Furness ! Stade Green 1.

Rotherham 1 Blackpool 2 Third division: Carlisle 2 Darlington 1: Chester 2 Sca-borough 0, Chesterfield 3 Scunthorpe 2 StrewSoury 2 Doncaster 0, Watself 0 Wresham 3, Wigan 0 Stockport County 4

EL SALER CLUB, Valencia: Turrespoarie Massers: Early first round acores (CB and fer unless states): 68: F Tamsud (Fr.), R McFertarse, D Borrego (Sp.), 67: P Baker, T Johnstone (Jn.), N Brigge, A Cabrera (Arg), 68: C Hail, N Brigge, A Cabrera (Arg), 68: C Hail, R Burns, A Sharbone, O Karlsson (Swe), 68: E (Barrido (Sp.), C Cewser (Fr), W Risey (Aus.), G Turner (NZ), W Westner (SA), R Chebrera, 1 Pyman, C Suneson (Sp.), 70: D Gillord, C Rocce (In, F Caa (Sp.), D Fehesty, "A Pastrana (Sp.), J McSecon, Tr.: J Payria, E Romero (Ag), M Gronberg (Swe), L Westneod, M Besancaney (Fr), J Lomas, M Farry (Fr), J Van de Velde (Fr), A Collison, M Pinero (Sp.), J Haeggman (Swe), S Bottomley, C O'Connor k, E Darcy, D Howell, D Smyth, M Davis, P Harrington, 72: P Walton, R Reflerty, H Buhrmann (SA), G Nicktaus (LS), F Lindgren (Swe), F Roca (Sp.), M McLaen, J Cabo (Sp.), R Drummond, S Cage, J Guepy (Fr), J Cooeres (Arg), M McLaen, J Cabo (Sp.), R Drummond, S Cage, J Guepy (Fr), J Cooeres (Arg), M McLaen, J Cabo (Sp.), R McCardey, P Hedblorn (Swe), F Li J Chanson, Swe), G Bresson, R Russel, J Cantzeres (Sp.), M McRo, D Carter, 74: S Field, S Websiter, S Luria (Sp.), H Clark, P Myman (Swe), O Romond (Fr), 75: D J Russell, C Beautell (Sp.), P Lawrie, D A Russel, P Moloney (Aus), P Dinadle, 75: M Welch, F Howley, D Williams, P Golding, S Ballesteros (Sp.), Y McAllisier, A Oldcorn, J Garda (Sp.), Y Beamonte (Sp.), T Price (Aus.), J Amiti (Sp.), I Fellu (Sp.), R Muniz

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Quarter-finals: Steck bt K Karner (Ger) 6-2, 6-1; Balekova bt Maudsley 6-3, 6-2; Ward bt Tordoff 6-3, 6-3. LA MANGA, Spein: Fed Cup: Europe/Africa: Group one: Russia 3 Sweden 0; Switzerland 2 Hungary 1; Croata 3 Romanie 0; Belorussia 3 Italy 0.

son (Swe), M Janton (Swe), * J Aguero (Sp), 79: A Lebouc (Fr), T Planchin (Fr), M Clayton (Aus).

" denotes amateur

6-17, C. Darmeso Dt. 1 Humes 6-1, 6-0, 5-Macritosh th S. Owers 6-5, 6-4. Second roundt: P. Lurnley bt Darby 6-0, 6-0, A. Cockcorth bt Barrisold 6-1, 6-1, A. Garsade bt S. Day 6-0, 6-0 F. Metherell bt M. Pgroon 6-0, 6-0; S. Haswell bt F. Syson 6-0, 6-0.

BULAWAYO: Amy TRC Tour. Individual: Stage I: 1. C Cheshre (ATRC) 104 14; 2. E Rosentels (Massholstand) 101.9; 3. Seagar (Matsholstand) 99.7. Stage II: 1, Cheshre 102.9; 2. M Reid (ATRC) 101.7; 3. Crearate 1023/, 2, M Hear (AHC.) 107 7; 3, Seagar 97 Stage III: 1, Cheshine 100.9; 2, M van Aswegan (Matabeleland) 99.9; 3 I Ribchie (Masabelend) 98.9 Grand aggregate: 1, Cheshine 306.32; 2, Seagar 294.25; 3, R Awman (ATRC) 294.24 Team match: 1, Army TRC Z 780.59; 2, Matabeleland A 774.46; 3, Army TRC Y 751.44

RUGBY UNION COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP: First division: Lexopsier 28 Gloucesier 6 HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Bridgend 48 New-port 17.

CLUB MATCHES: Cardiff 41 Pontypool 28; Preston Grasshoppers 19 Blackburn 25 Postponed: Cardiff Inst v Newport. SNOOKER

CRUCIBLE THEATRE. Shaffield: Embassy world championship (England unless stated): First round: J Waltane (Thai) bt J Maches 10-8. Second round: R O'Sullivan leads A Drago (Matte) 6-2.

SECUL: Men's tournament: Quester finals: J Kroslak (Skovakia) bt O Orgodok (Uzb) 7-5, 4-6, 6-2; M Dam (Cz) bt G Russdeld (GB) 6-4, 6-7; 7-5.

(Ltb) 7-5, 4-6, 6-2, M Dam (Cz) bt G Rusedeki (GS) 6-4, 6-7, 7-5.

EDINBURGH: Spring setalitie tournament (GB unless statied): Merr: First round: J Delgado bt M Wyeth 8-2, 4-8, 6-2; S Bandermann (Ger) to D Wand 6-3, 6-4; D Sapeford bt S Pender 8-4, 6-4; T Schlessing (Austria) bt J Bernet 8-1, 6-4; A Richardson bt C Bernett 6-4, 6-0; A Parmer bt N Beglin 4-8, 6-3, 7-5; T Spriks bt M Turkovis; (Sarveika) 6-3, 6-1; T Spriks bt M Turkovis; (Sarveika) 6-3, 6-1; P Moschroutis (Gr) bt D Draper 6-2, 6-7, 6-2; R Barbler (Fr) bt G Strenkamp (Sar) 8-3, 6-2; R Barbler (Fr) bt G Strenkamp (Sar) 8-3, 6-2; R Spriks (Gar) bt W Treu (Austrie) 5-7, 6-3, 7-8; P Käderry (Aus) bt R Magheeon 3-6, 8-2, 6-3; F Dondo (Lru) bt O Burrieza (Sp) 6-1, 7-5; D Sanders bt M Bouteting 6-2, 6-3; A Du Puls (Fr) bt J Davidson 6-3, 6-4; P Pela (Cz) bt V Sundaram 6-3, 6-4, 9-2 bender ound: Delgado bt Goodarz 6-0, 6-2; Moschoutis bt S Bandermann (Ger) 6-4, 6-2; Dondo bt Sandermann (Ger) 6-4, 6-2; Dondo bt Sandermann (Ger) 6-4, 6-2; Dondo bt Sanders 6-3, 6-0; D ruis bt Pala 6-3, 7-5; Parmer bt Richardson 1-8, 7-5, 6-2; Worman: Second round: Streck; (SA) bt L Woodroffe 6-2, 6-4; Sundars (Sar) bt L Woodroffe 6-2, 6-4; P Maydoley (Aus) bt M Mersina (Russ) 6-2, 6-6; Worth to P Levies 6-2, 6-1; A Tordoff bt N Bartan (Isr) 6-3, 6-1; Custrer-finals: Sleck bt K Kerner (Ger) 6-2, 6-1; Baletova bt Masudsley 6-3, 6-2; Warder 6-1, 6-2; Baletova bt Masudsley 6-3, 6-2; Warder 6-1, 6-2; Baletova bt Masudsley 6-3, 6-2; Warder 6-1, 6-2, 6-3; P March 6-1, 6-2; Baletova bt Masudsley 6-3, 6-2; Warder 6-1, 6-2, 6-3; P March 6-1, 6-2; P March 6-1, 6-2, 6-3; 8.75 CANNING HOVICES HURDLE (£2,415; 3m 2f 110yd) (15) COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: N Handerson, 8 winners from 24 normers, 33.3%, D Micholson, 25 from 91, 27.5%, K Bailey, 16 from 59, 27.1%, M Pice, 16 from 62, 19.5%; T Forster, 12 from 75, 16.0%; Miss H Knight, 11 from 70, 16.7%.

O'Sullivan displays world championship potential

£17,000 sponsors' bonus.

However, Drago is as creat-

in line for a half share of the RONNIE O'SULLIVAN, who controversially played a sequence of left-handed shots on the way to victory over Alain Robidoux in the first round of the Embassy world snooker championship five days ago, adopted a more conventional, if equally spectacular, approach, on his return to the Crucible Theatre

In building a 6-2 lead over Tony Drago, of Malta, in the last 16, O'Sullivan showcased the ease of break-building that has led him to be regarded as a serious threat to the continued dominance of Stephen Hendry, the tifle-holder. O'Sullivan could face a

charge of bringing the game into disrepute after deroga-tory and ill-advised comments about Robidoux and there were those who thought that this would adversely affect his performance against Drago.

They were wrong.
Drago, himself convincing in beating Steve James 10-2 in the first round, made an encouraging start. He recovered from a S8-11 deficit to steal the opening frame on the black with a 58 clearance and entered the mid-session interval at 2-2 thanks to a 144 total clearance. That matched the highest break of Drago's run from Peter Ebdon as the highest break of the 1996 championship. Drago is thus

Carl Evans: 7.45 Tuffnut George.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES)

5.45 Just For A Reason, 6.15 Philip's Woody, 6.45

Mim-Lou-And. 7,15 Sound Forecast. 7.45 Tuffrut George. 8.15 Akiymann.

5.45 HARRIS ALLDAY LEA AND BROOKS NOVICES SELLING HURDLE (\$2.070: 2m) (18 runners)

1000P BRITANINA MILLS 13 09 M Clayman 5-11-3 — G Supple (7)

2 3331 DUT RANGOM (16 (F.S) (2) M For 4-11-3 — J Limits

3 -39P DANCING AT LARPINE Q Lies S (Mics. 1-1) 2 M Williamshire (7)

4 0000 DUE OF BEDWINGHE (70 M Supplied 6-11-2 — B Winter (7)

5 5- HARRY AT A J MISSON 5-11-2 — B F Bright

5 5- HARRY AT A J MISSON 5-11-2 — B F Bright

5 5- HARRY AT A J MISSON 5-11-2 — B Winter (7)

7 55- MICK THE BESTURE 1 MS 5-11-2 — J F Bright

8 0000 TOS YOUR TORELINES 1 S Lies Set von (2) — J F Bright

8 0000 TOS YOUR TORELINES 1 S Lies Set von (2) — J F Bright

9 0000 WILL THE S LAD 22 PRINCE 5-11-2 — Bright 1-11-2 — B

94 Car Resisto, 7-2 List For A Reserv. 15-2 from The Books, 7-4 Britania Mills. 19-1 Franc Bordamaia, 17-5 others

6.15 BROMPIELD SAND AND GRAVEL HANDICAP

2 150P BLUSTERY FELLOW 144 (CD.F.S) :: Testan-Dames 11-10-9

3 2005 HURRYUP S9 (F,S) 8 Dobs 9-10-5 Mr J Celley 5 4 1233 GOLDEN MAJJANEO 23 (2017) F Jordan 10-10-4 J Lordon 5 2-12 HOWSEL 11 (87 FS) F Poster 10-10-1 Mr G Shankin 77 E R644 MAPLE DANCER 44 (D.F.G) P Seres 10-10-0 Mr G Shankin 77 7 2303 CHANNEL PASTANE 18 (G) P Brothe 12-10-2 Gry Lewis (S) 8 P165 MANAMOUR 195 (F) 8 Len 9-10-6 R. S. Johnson (3)

1 2222 PHILIP'S WOODY 52 (CD.F.G.S) \$ Herdown 8-11-19

6.45 D J PROFILES HANDICAP HURDLE

7.15 SHROPSHIRE REGIMENTS NOVICES

HAMDICAP CHASE (£3,363: 3m) (13)

7.45 STRONGBOW HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £1,725: 2m 4f) (17)

| The content of the

CHASE (£3,525: 2m: 4f) (8)

Thai. Although he trailed 5-4 overnight, Wattana appeared to have weathered the storm by establishing a 96

ic as he is talented and mistakes began to creep in Leading 4937 in the fifth Michie refused to capito late, though, and, when he pulled back to 8-9, thoughts of frame. Drago missed a relatively straightforward red and being involved in the summer O'Sullivan cleared with 32. preliminary rounds for next Worse was to follow in seasons ranking events — the the sixth frame. O'Sullivan lot of those outside the top 16 opened the scoring with a 62 - must have been uppermost break, Drago responded with 57 but missed a simple pink in Wattana's mind. It was therefore with immense relief when only that, plus the that Wattana comfortably black would have enabled won the eighteenth frame to him to level it 3-3. O'Sullivan then accounted for the closing set up a meeting with Nigel two frames of the afternoon

☐ John Spencer, the chairman of the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association (WPBSA), the game's governing body, could have compromised his pos-ition by betting on a number of matches at leading tourna-ments. An article in the Daily Express yesterday quoted Stan James, a bookmaker, as saying that Spencer has also acted as an intermediary for the players on occasions" by placing bets on their behalf.

Nothing illegal has taken place and no results or scores have been manipulated in any way. However, it is traditional that the chairman is appointed at the first board meeting of the WPBSA after mpionship and this will have done harm to Spen-



with breaks of 100 and 120.

place in the game's top 16 next season, but his 10-8 win over Jimmy Michie, of Pontefract,

severely tested the out of form

James Wattana retained his

5.30 Coeux Batterit, 6.00 Junz, 6.30 El Grando, 7.00 Mutual Trust. 7.30 Storm Fun. 8.00 Cardinal Rule. The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 6.30 SEVERN GALE.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES)

5. 30 MOTHER WAY SELTING SOUTHER HURBLE

[E1,910; 2m; 31 10y0] (15 Injunity)

1 0064 6908 is 10 12 5 in first 12 5

2 Food Souther Manual Process of Southers 1 Decignate

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4 2007 SEPT 18 97 5 Lensible 4-10-12 Mr. 1 Lensible

5 007 SEPT 18 97 5 Lensible 4-10-12 Mr. 1 Lensible

5 007 SEPT 18 97 5 Lensible 4-10-12 Mr. 1 Lensible

5 007 SEPT 18 97 5 Lensible 4-10-12 Mr. 1 Lensible

6 225 Manual Late 18 10 A Houston Falley 5-13-15 6 House 1

7 1000 Manual Common 6-10-12 Mr. 1 Manual 1-10-12 Mr. 1
CHASE (E3,132: 2m 3f) (12)

1 Off 1 JRZ 6 (6.6.5) 8 Indiges 8-12-4

1 Off 1 JRZ 6 (6.6.5) 8 Indiges 8-12-4

2 IP21 DRUMCRLID 18 (F) A Balley 7-11-11.

3 8818 WHSPT 18 (F) A Balley 7-11-11.

5 PP-F CRICORL 18F (5) Ms 1 JARIS B-11-4.

5 PP-F CRICORL 18F (5) Ms 1 JARIS B-11-4.

6 1035 RASHAM 27 (8.9) Professor 8-11-4.

7 PP-B JRASHAM (6 (6.9) Professor 8-11-4.

8 PP-S JRASHAM (6.6) Professor 8-11-4.

9 043 HATTUR MEMORIES 375 N Harberson 8-10-13.

11 42PD DRAFES DRUGHT 15 (5 Balley) 8-11-4.

11 42PD DRAFES DRUGHT 128 P JARIS 8-10-13.

12 PPP-S STRATTOM FLYER 38 H Harbe 8-10-13.

0-11 JRZ 4-1 Dragation 7-1 Absord 17-1 Wissork

6.30 MELEDY MAN CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP

15 SPO4 DLIKE OF DREAMS 16 (2D,6) R Baler 8-10-7 Chaccovine (3) 16 -240 PRAIRE GROVE 116 Mass H Knight 6-10-5 GF Ryan (5) 4-1 Tonys GR, 5-1 Donkhessisordiner, 8-1 Majboor Yalooz, Chris's Glen, 12-1 Severn Gale, Handson, 14-1 others.

7.00 SOMERSET NUFFIELD HOSPITAL CHASE HANDICAP CHASE (£3,810; 3m) (13) 1 134 CHANNELS GATE 333 (F.G.S) Miss V Wee

7.30 ASPEN CATERSHO MAIDEN HURDLE (£2,213: 2m 1f) (14) 12,215. 2(11) (14)

1 F2-2 GRINADON 182 Mos i Trylor 7-11-8.

20/985 (JTTLE TONE P Resident 5-11-6.

3 30P4 MAYLER 35 N Instance Parkers E-11-5.

4 OPERA FESTIVAL R Below 6-11-6.

5 2228 STORM PLIN 50 (8F &) P Nicholis 5-11-6 Mr A

6 2228 STORM PLIN 50 (8F &) P Nicholis 5-11-6 Mr A

7 4 VALMATT 144 T FORMS 5-11-6 Mr A

8 2380 COME DANCE WITH ME 20 (8F) R Front 6-11-5.

9 U POWDER MONREY 23 C Pupham 8-11-1 T

10 TAPESTRY ROSE 20 J Poulson 5-11-1 T

11 3 BLASTED 42 6 Thomas 4-11-0 Col.

12 P LOGE 37 (V) D Sandolfo 4-11-0 Col.

13 2200 SULARIAM 45 M Piga 4-11-0 Col.

14 RUPCHT'S PRINCESS 60F H Hopous 4-10-9

4 Solathur, 2-1 Storin Ran, 4-1 Marker, Walland, 10-1 Blasked 1

7-4 Solathuro, 2-1 Storm Ran, 4-1 Matther, Walland, 10-1 Blanted, 12-1 others, 8.00 TAUNTON HACECOURSE CONFERENCE CENTRE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (Amabburs: £2,229: 2m 3f 110yd) (14)

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRAINERS: P Hobbs. 22 winners from 92 runners. 23.9%: M Pipe. 45 from 189, 23.0%. J King. 5 from 22. 22.7%. Mass H Knight, 6 from 25. 21.4%: P Harnierson, 6 from 35, 17.1%; K Bailey, 3 from 24, 12.5%. ACCRESS, 9 sensers from 52 fibes, 17.3%; G Tourney, 2 from 19. 15.6%; C Mandet, 11 from 35, 17.29%; D Seller, 5 from 48, 10.4%; T Dascombe, 4 from 40, 10.0%. Only qualifiers.

Wey ou Val

Bruising setback for Bosra Sham

BY JULIAN MUSCAT

BOSRA SHAM has sustained a setback in her preparation for the 1,000 Guineas a week on Sunday. The odds-on favourite was sore on her near foreleg yesterday and has been placed on the easy list until the weekend.

Bosra Sham was found to have suffered a bruised foot. But her trainer, Henry Cecil, is optimistic the unbeaten filly will make the Newmarket line-up with her chance intact. "She should be back in exercise in a couple of days," Cecil said. "I am hopeful that the setback won't affect her participa-

tion in the big race."
Cecil will be anxious to canter the filly with the rest of the string tomorrow. although her winning reappearance at Newbury last week will have brought her close to peak

Cross-

 $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{F}_{\mathbf{T}_{\mathbf{T}}}})$

3 - 2.4

30 m

Despite the reversal. William Hill maintained Bosra Sham at 5-2 on for a classic weakened by the recent withdrawals of Blue Duster and A Voire Sante.

The Horserace Betting Levy Board yesterday announced a 20 per cent cut in its funding of evening and Sunday meetings from January I.

These fixtures previous ly qualified for 100 per cent funding by the board, which is concerned at the lack of growth in offcourse betting turnover. While profitable for racecourses, evening and Sunday fixtures have proved less attractive to off-course

Nicholson and Pipe locked in enthralling private duel

Title bout goes the distance

THE two of them have circled each other through the winter. one occasionally landing an apparently decisive hlow only for the other to respond with

They were at it again yesterday, though this time on neutral territory in Ireland and, while the stakes here were high enough, the minds of Martin Pipe and David Nicholson wandered frequently to Sandown Park tomorrow and potentially the denouement of their private duel.

Eight months into the National Hunt season, Pipe leads Nicholson by a mere £7,945, roughly one per cent of his total winnings, at the head of the trainers' table. If either man wins the Whithread Gold Cup, and upwards of £65.000, the title will effectively be settled. If not, the five weeks remaining before the June I recess will be a battle over

scraps.
Publicly, both men play down the championship. But catch either of them off guard and the meaning of it might emerge. It is not just prestige. a label to attract new patrons, it is also strictly personal between two men at odds in all

Pipe dominated the trainers' table for too long and a sport weary of his monopoly was grateful to Nicholson for taking the title from him in 1994. But Nicholson then won it again last year. Pipe's supremacy is diminished and he is fighting back.

Both men are inspired by their fathers but Nicholson's was a jockey turned trainer. while Pipe's is a bookmaker. The distinction reflects in their styles, Nicholson adhering to the traditions that Pipe scorns in his methods and his choice



Ventana Canyon on his way to a narrow success in the Tripleprint Novices' Chase at Punchestown yesterday

of horses. Socially, too, they have little in common. They are mutually civil but would probably not be on each other's dinner guest lists.

At large on the racecourse, Nicholson is a peacock, at ease with people who he will alternately bully and befriend with engaging facility, his heart permanently on his sleeve. Pipe is a woodpecker, busy. protective and suspicious.

Obsessively organised, Pipe will occasionally feel like an overloaded computer and, only then, submit to the need for a holiday. He was in

Venice last weekend when ground." Nicholson reopened championship debate by train-There was much to divert on ing the first and third home in

Pipe hurried home. "We worked 80 horses on Tuesday and will have plenty more winners yet," he promises. But those winners will be insufficient if Nicholson's Barton Bank wins at Sandown tomorrow. "It will be a different ball game them," the champion

confirms, "If he doesn't win.

then realistically I am strug-gling. I don't have enough

horses to run on the firm

the last day here, including a the Scottish Grand National second successive victory for Risk Of Thunder in the wondrously baffling La Touche Cup over four miles of banks and walls. But for those of us from across the sea, Pipe and Nicholson held court.

It was not their day. Pipe's Cyborgo was only fourth in the Stayers' Hurdle and their respective runners in the day's main event, the Murphys Champion Four-Year-Old Hurdle, were both unplaced. as Tony McCoy rode the second of his three winners on Shaunies Lady.

This was still symbolic. She is trained by Aidan O'Brien, for whom this was the first success of the meeting but the 46th of the season.

O'Brien is more than 100 winners clear of the field in Ireland, a remarkable champion, and yet, as Pipe found in Britain, there are many who resent so much success going to one man. They want to see him knocked off his perch. They are seeking a David Nicholson to do the job.

Darter can prove leniently treated on return to Flat

SANDOWN PARK

CHANNEL 4 2.35: This race usually unearths a promising colt and Censor certainly merits that description. A brother to the

high-class miler, Shavian. Censor won his maiden at Nottingham last term and has reportedly been working well. Gold Disc's reputation preceded him to Leicester, where he justified favouritism with ease. However, the second and third remain maidens. Regal Archive looks a bigger threat. From the same stable as Spectrum, the winner 12 months ago. Regal Archive justified strong support on his debut and will improve for the

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: ALMOND ROCK (3.05 Sandown Park) Next best: Mister Jolson (4.45 Sandown Park)

extra furlong here. Red Rubbo may prefer fast ground; Royal Canaska appears best of the

3.05: Two against this competitive field are Almond Rock an**d Star Manager,** with Paul Cole's representative given the vote on his triumph first time up last season. A winner that day from a rating of 78. Star Manager starts his campaign from a 3lb higher mark by virtue of being out of the handicap. Donna Viola capped a successful season when third in listed company and has claims if at her peak. Sotoboy is attractively weighted on his juvenile form, while a market move for Sejaal

would merit a saver.



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

3.40: This intriguing contest can go the way of Bishop Of Cashel, who has conditions in his favour. With Mistle Cat and Inzar sure to keep the pace honest, Bishop Of Cashel will have the race run to suit him. He has nothing to fear from Nijo on their Doncaster running last term and should retrieve a one-length defeat by Soviet Line (at Ascot in Scotember) on old better terms.

First Island tholds Nwaamis) and Gabr are closely matched on recent Newmarket running, but the latter will have improved for the run. Myself has an outside chance but Decorated Hero can repay each-way support. Weighted out of several contests last season, he will strip fitter for a recent outing at Warwick and is open to further improvement.

4.10: Speed To Lead will be popular now that she steps up in trip but **Darter** is taken to translate his hurdles improvement to the Flat. Although Reg Akehurst's runner would prefer softer ground, he looks attractively handicapped at present. Hattaateh and Toy Princess are closely matched on their recent clash at Folkestone but Barford Sovereign looks a bigger threat.

JULIAN MUSCAT

SANDOWN PARK

2.00 Magnolia

2.35 AL ABRAQ (nap)

3,40 Nwaamis 4.10 Darter 4.45 Gone Savage 5.20 Quota

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.00 Show Off. 5.20 QUOTA (nap).

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

Racecard mutable: Oran in brackets. So-figure form (F.— lett. P.— pulled up. U.— untealed inder B.— brought down. S.— stepped up. R.— refreed. D.— disquadited). Horse's warne Days stree less outling. J. B. jumps., F. at flat. B.— bilinkers. V.— vrsor. H.— hand. E.— Eyesthield. G.— course women. D.— distance winner. CD.—

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CO.)8F.F.G.S.) (Airs D Roberson) B Hall 9-10-0 . B Wiesl (4) 88 course and distance winder. 8F — beaten beworde in talest race) Gaing on which horse has won (F — jam, good to firm, hard 5 — good 8 — sell, good to call, heavy) Uniter in tracliefs Trainer Age and weight. Refer plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

DRAW: 5F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2. (2-Y	00 0: £3	ALBERT MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (404: 51 6yd) (8 runners)
109	(6)	ALEMERIANA (D Promest) J Winde 8-11 X Rotter
102	ä	LOCH DIBIDALE (& Printered-Gordon) J Banks 5-17 J Stack (3)
103	ä	MASMOLIA (C Whight) P Cale B-11
164	(2)	PRESKOUL (Mrs. W Oram) () Arbudania 8-11 S Whiteons
105	(8)	2 RED GARTER 30 (A MacCalinsty) K McAubile 8-11
106	(3)	2 ROYAL EMPLEM 14 (Lambourn Valley Racing) A Foster 8-11 R Waterfield (7)
107	(4)	SAROTINI (Mrs E Roberts) B Hills 8-11 Pat Eddery
		SHOW DIF (Mrs S Davis) W Javis 8-11
102	(1)	SLOW FOL ONE 2 NEWS IN TRANSPORT
BETT	NG: 7-4	Magnolia, 7-2 Sabolan, 5-1 Red Gates, 11-2 Royal Emblem, 6-1 Show Off, 12-1 others.
		The second property of the second sec

2.4 (3-Y-	35.	TUDOR CONDITIONS STAKES s and geldings: £4,878; 1m 14yd) (7 runners)
201 202 203 204 205 206 207 BETTH	(1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1)	OI. CENSOR 183 (D.P.) (Lord Howard de Waldort) H. Eccil 9-0 . W Ryan 84 . GOLD DISC 199 (B) (K Anutals) 8 Hels 9-0

1995; FLYING SOUAW 8-11 R Hughes (100-30 Ew) M Charmon 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

GDLD DISC bees Alambar 2141 in 12-runner mald-en at Leicester (71, good). RED ROBBO 991 list of 5 to Henry The Filth in obtations rate at Newbury (1m, good to solf). REGAL ARCHIVE best Safe of Caution 1961 in 17-runner maides at Kempton (71, Selection: RED ROBBO

3.05 ATHLONE RATED HANDICAP

(£8,074: 1m 14yd) (18 numers)

301 (1) 1/31150- MDMENTS OF FORTUNE 309 (8,0.F.E) (A Ab) 8 Hambury 4-9-7 J Stack (3) 90

302 (10) 335020- DESERT GREEN 148 (D.F) (Mrs P Jubent) 8 Hambury 4-9-7 Dame O'Neal (5) 88

303 (15) 19020-0 AND 6 (CDF,5) of Al Mahistant R Armstong 4-9-2 W Cassin, 90

304 (2) 4/4153-0 DONNA WOLL 283 (CDF,5) (K Soath) C What 4-9-0 J Reid 90

305 (3) 11/40- ABONE THE CLIT 242 (F) 0Hr F Hams 1 P Hams 4-9-0 G Hand 90

306 (6) 34600-0 PERRI, VENTURE 34 (F) (Dr F Cran) S Woods 4-8-11 W Woods 97

307 (4) 100404- E TRASTEVERE 42) (D.S.) (J Hams) Miss 6 Kellewiny 4-8-11 R Cachrane 90

308 (6) 931231- ALMOND ROCK 223 (D.G.S.) (CT Reseq Unit) First lines 4-8-10 L Detartion 92

309 (16) 931231- ALMOND ROCK 223 (D.G.S.) (CR Deeps) J Payria 4-8-10 L Detartion 92

310 (77 9-307102 PENGAMON 18 (D.F.S.) (Mrs. A Smallman) H Colleagradge 4-8-9 J Quinta 93

311 (11) 251110- BLAZE OF SONG S11 (D.G.S.) (Debocock) R Hamman 4-8-8 PAR 60dates 94

312 (13) 365006- STOROM 187 (P) (Mrs. M Holds) P Paris 4-8-7 A Dahy (5) 93

313 (16) 024805
314 (14) 14-4425 CONFRONTER 68 (E.S.) (Halbert 120) S Don 7-8-7 A Dahy (5) 93

315 (19) 900083- STAN MANAGER 1534 (D.G.S.) (M Arban) P Cole 6-8-7 A Dahy (5) 93

316 (12) 03310- SEJAM 225 (D.F.) (Line Radiny Chul) S Don 7-8-7 A Dahy (5) 93

317 (17) 111-202 EASY CHOICE 73 (D.S.) (M Arban) P Mister 4-8-7 A Cark 88

318 (5) 440000- SAAFAN 181 (D.F.S) (Mrs. Brooth D Morres 7-8-7 C Dedigmon - A Cark 88

Line Jamanilson: Solution 9-8-6. Elde Hope 8-6. Confronter 8-6, Sar Manager 8-4, Sepal 6-4. Easy Croice 8-1. Long Immolicago: Soluboy 9-6. Ente Hope. 8-6. Confronter 8-6. Saar Manages 8-4. Septid 8-4. Easy Choice 8-1. Satism 8-0

COMMIN ONLY

BETTINGS: 6-1 Astronat Rock, 2-1 Donnar Wale. 8-1 Blaze Di Song, Ran's Secret, 10-1 Pergamon, Soloboy, Star

BETTINGS: 6-1 Astronat Rock, 2-1 Donnar Wale. 8-1 Blaze Di Song, Ran's Secret, 10-1 il Trasievere, Sejaal, 26-1 officers

Manages, 12-1 Above The Cut, 14-1 Aidi, Confinentes, Desart Grown, 16-1 il Trasievere, Sejaal, 26-1 officers

1995: MR MARTING 5-9-3 Mr Percent (10-1) C Brazan 18 ran FORM FOCUS

DONNEA WOLA 3161 3rd of 10 to A La Carte in a Relet rice at Ascent film, sell) with PEARL VENTURE (33b before of) 3741 7th. ALMOND PIOCK.

TURE (33b before of) 3741 7th. ALMOND PIOCK.

The late roll of 1541 1th and SAFAN (20 before of) 111 14th. PENSANON neck 2nd of 8 to Weston Weston at Carte Manager and SAFAN (20 before of) 111 14th. PENSANON neck 2nd of 8 to Weston Weston Almond Rock and SAFAN (71b before 30) 111 11th Selection (71, good).



SPECIALISTS SANDOWN PARK: Trainers: D Loder, 7 werens from 20 runners, 35 0%; J Gosden, 19 mon 94, 20 2%; J Dunlop, 17 from 88, 19 3%; J Fenctueve, 12 from 64, 18,8%; W Hagger, 3 from 17, 17,8%; Jockeys: Fat Eddery, 48 werners from 230 rides, 20,5%; L Dellor, 35 from 200, 17,5%; W Plays, 10 from 71, 14,1%; W Carson, 25 from 178, 14 0%; G 71, 14,1%; W Carson, 25 from 178, 14 0%; G Belding, 6 from 53, 18,2%; D Hamson, 12 from 102, 11,8%; G Hind, 3 from 28, 10,7% CARLISLE: Trainers: M Charnon, 9 win-ners from 13 nurrers, 69:2%; J Duripp, 5 from 10, 50.0%, Mrs J Ramsdon, 11 from 58, 28.9%; Mrs M Reveley, 18 from 55, 28 f%; E Weymes, 4 from 18, 22.2%; E Alson, 6 from 31, 19.4%, Jockeys: P Robinson, 15 worners from 60 rides, 37.5%; G Parlon, 3 from 9, 33.3%; K Derley, 18 from 98, 18.4%; J Carroll, 13 from 74, 17.5%; J Wester, 6 from 39, 15.4%.

3.40 SANDOWN MILE (Group II: £36,605: 1m 14yd) (12 nunners)

UP II: £36,605: TIM 14y0) (12 runners)

(8) 30;26-0 SUVET LINE 10 (D.F.G) (Blas) (Develop Part Start) Familiana 4-9-0 Diffartison

(7) 30;20-4 BISHID OF CASHEL 216 (D.6,5) (Develop Part Start) Familiana 4-9-0 Diffartison

(8) 32;20-3 DECORATED HERO 18 (D.F.S) (H. Allert) J Goscien 4-9-0 L. Dettori

(9) 43;2-13 Parts 18; AMD 9 (D.F.G.S) (H. Allert) J Goscien 4-9-0 ... M. Hills

(9) 62;1113- ROZER 194 (F.G.S) (H. Allert) Handstown F. Armstring 6-9-0 ... W Carson

(11) 42046- MISTLE CAT 166 (D.G.S) (P. L. Chu) S Woods 6-9-0 ... W Woods

(11) 425;2-1 RLIO 22; (C.D.G.S) (Shein Abmed ba Saled Al Mastoum) D Lodes 5-9-0 R Hughes

(15) 17550-3 NMANANS 36 (B.F.S) (H. Allert) Control 4-9-0 R Hills

(16) 680;2-6 AUTLINEN AFFAR 34 (S.) (R. Ruchnes) L. Ruch 4-8-11 ... W Woods

(17) 100430- MISTLE 194 (F.G.) (Boomsbury Start) P Chapter 194 11... J Red

(18) 100430- MISTLE 194 (F.G.) (Boomsbury Start) P Chapter 194 11... J Red

(18) 2-2 Allert 194 (F.G.) (Boomsbury Start) P Chapter 194 11... J Red

1995: AUSSED FLIGHT 5-9-4 G Dulfield (7-4 ter) C Wall 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

SOVIET LINE hest either 141 2nd of 8 to Harayar in the group II Challenge Stakes at Newmarket 177, good to lumy with MRSTLE CAT (20 better oil) 21 db. newmarket (1 m 11 good to firm) with GASR 341 db. Previously hest Wijara 146 m a 7-uniter leaded this and AUTILIAM AFFARR (25b better oil) 556 february 111 3rd of 6 to Bahri on the group 1 obsert Exhabiting 13 db. 181 pool) with MRAAMSS 2761 db. Restauching 1 m 15 good) with MRAAMSS 2761 db. Restauching 1 m 15 good) 8 february 1 m 15 good to firm) LAP OF LUDGRY short-head 2nd of 8 to Restauching in a listed space at Newmarket (1 m 11, good) 9 february 1 m 15 good to firm) LAP OF LUDGRY short-head 2nd of 8 to Restauching in a listed space at Newmarket (1 m 11, good to firm) LAP OF LUDGRY short-head 2nd of 8 to Restauching in a listed space at Newmarket (1 m 11, good to firm) LAP OF LUDGRY short-head 2nd of 8 to Restauching in a listed space at Newmarket (1 m 11, good to firm) LAP OF LUDGRY short-head 2nd of 8 to Restauching in a listed space at Newmarket (1 m 11, good to firm) LAP OF LUDGRY short-head 2nd of 8 to Restauching in a listed space at Newmarket (1 m 11, good to firm) with GASR 34 to 10 to Proker.

4.10 GUILDFORD HANDICAP

			101D Maniors	_
(£4,	241:	2m 78yo	i) (14 runners)	
501	(8)	4111/	ERZADJAN 17J (6) (D Half) Mrs M Revolor 6-10-6 A Cultivos	_
502	(13)		CYPRESS AVENUE 7 (B) (C Spencer-Phillips) R Hennon 4-9-5 . R Pertnam	99
503	(14)	3/23-2	SPEED TO LEAD 9 (BP) (Buckram Call Holdings) H Cetal 4-9-2 . Pal Eddery	95
504	(10)	42-5051	TOY PRINCESS 10 (F,6) (C Britain) C Britain 4-8-13 (4ex) . M Henry (5)	97
505	(3)	524524-	PARADISE MAYY 158 (G) (Eine Raceig Club) C Egenton 7-8-12 R Hoghes	92
506	(11)		LEAR DANCER 41 (B,D.BF,F,G) (Mrs R Johnson) P Mitchell 5-8-11 . A Clark	88
507	{7)		DARTER 43J (A Spence) Pi Abchurst 4-8-7	96
508	(4)		BARFORD SOVERBEN 31.J (Barford Bloodstock) J Fanciume 4-8-7 D Harrison	90
509	(12)		PREROGATIVE 1141 (M. Thole) R. Simpson 6-8-5 S. Drowne (3)	_
510	(9)		CALL MY GUEST 13 (S) (D Cite) R Procest 6-8-4 W Carson	-
511	(b)	33000-2	HATTAAFEH 10 (G) (Mrs P Sheen) Mass B Sanders 5-7-10 G Bardwall	
512	(5)		ROCKY FORUM 255 (D.G.S) (The Forum Ltd) G.L. Moure 4-7-10 J Quice	90
513	(2)		REAGANESCUE 14 pars J Spleimon) P Murphy 4-7-10 F Morton	98
514	(1)		GENTLEMAN SID 35 (CD.F) (Miss J Colusion) P Murphy 6-7-10 M Adeltic	87
Long	handic	apr. Rocky f	Farum 7-9, Reagamesque 7-9, Gentleman Sid 7-8.	

BETTING: 3-1 Speed To Lead, 6-1 Toy Process, Estadian, 7-1 Darter, 8-1 Cypness Avenue, Barland Soverago. 10-1 Pagadisa Nay., 12-7 others 1995: SMBJGGLING 4-8-11 L Dollan (4-1 tar) R Alebura 17 can

FORM FOCUS SPEED TO LEAD 21 and at 15 to Progression in a handleap at Newmorks! (4m 4t, good to firm) TOY PRINCESS best PATTAMPEN (4th bests off) 4th in a 16-uniter handleap at Fortestance (1m 19 Syd, good to firm) PARADISE NAVY 241 and of 13 to MSS Pis up in a handleap at Denotestance (1m 19 Syd, good to firm) PARADISE NAVY 241 and of 13 to MSS Pis up in a handleap at Paradise (3m 104), good to firm) PARADISE NAVY 241 and of 13 to MSS Pis up in a 6-uniter handleap at Linghest (2m, AW).

Selection: SPEED TO LEAD

4.45 SURREY RACING HANDICAP (£5,784: 51 6yd) (18 runners)

501 (3) R0020-1 SEGNEURIAL 18 (0,0) (The PBI Stroup) G Harwood 4-10-0 ... A Clark 98 (2) (12) 2540-00 LENGOK (£WES 7 (0,5) (Mrs A Larve) A Larve 4-10-0 ... K Hoghstor (7) 97 (50) (14) 96-100- ROCK SYMPHURY 195 (0,6,6) (Mrs Happes 6-9-11 ... Except Terms (7) 97 (50) (15) 015400- MASTER OF PASSION 202 (0,5,6,5) (M force) J Extinct 7-9 ... M Teshuni 98 (51) 100-100- THICK AS SHAPP 202 (0,5,6,5) (M force) J Extinct 7-9 ... M Teshuni 98 (51) 100-100- THICK AS SHAPP 202 (0,5,6,5) (M force) J Extinct 7-9 ... M Teshuni 98 (51) 100-100- THICK AS SHAPP 202 (0,5,6,5) (M force) J Extinct 7-9 ... M Teshuni 98 (51) 100-100- THICK AS SHAPP 202 (0,5,6,5) (M force) J Extinct 7-9 ... J Rod 95 (7) 100-100- ASHTINA 142 (0,5,5) (Mrs A Sinc) P Margin 7-9-1 ... J Rod 95 (17) 500-00 SR (0,5) (Mrs A Sinc) P Margin 7-9-1 ... J Rod 95 (17) 500-00 SR (0,5) (Mrs A Sinc) P Margin 7-9-1 ... J Rod 95 (17) 500-00 SR (0,5) (Mrs A Sinc) P Margin 7-9-1 ... J Fegur 96 (17) 500-00 SR (0,5) (Mrs A Sinc) P Margin 7-9-1 ... J Fegur 96 (17) 500-00 SR (0,5) (Mrs A Sinc) P Margin 7-9-1 ... J Fegur 96 (17) 500-00 SR (0,5) (Mrs A Sinc) P Margin 7-9-8-8 ... J F Egur 96 (17) 500-00 SR (0,5) (Mrs Charles 18-10) R MacCabe (1) 98 (10) 100-00 Master 14 (V.0,5) (T Barter) P Berghuni 7-9-3 ... D R McCabe (1) 98 (10) 100-00 Master 14 (V.0,5) (T Barter) P Berghuni 7-9-3 ... D R McCabe (1) 98 (13) 0400-00 GONE SANAGE 186 (CD,F,S,S) (Nes A Martin) Mrs A Rog 7-7-10 ... J Dakin 15 (11) 0015-00 FOLLOWINGSRLS 18 (D,F,S,S) (Nes A Martin) Mrs A Rog 7-7-10 ... J Dakin 15 (19) 113-100 OUR SANAGE 40,F,S) (Nes A Martin) Mrs A Rog 7-7-10 ... J Dakin 15 (19) 113-100 OUR SANAGE 40,F,S) (Nes A Martin) Mrs A Rog 7-7-10 ... J Dakin 15 (19) 113-100 OUR SANAGE 40,F,S) (Nes A Martin) Mrs A Rog 7-7-10 ... J Dakin 15 (19) 113-100 OUR SANAGE 40,F,S) (Nes A Martin) Mrs A Rog 7-7-10 ... J Dakin 15 (19) 113-100 OUR SANAGE 40,F,S) (Nes A Martin) Mrs A Rog 7-7-10 ... J Dakin 15 (19) 113-100 OUR SANAGE 40,F,S) (Nes A Martin) Mrs A Rog 7-4.45 SURREY RACING HANDICAP (£5,784: 51 Byd) (18 runners) Long hendicker, Followinguris 7-2, Our Stades 7-2 BETTIME: 5-1 Segmental, 6-1 Galone, Teles As Sturp, 6-1 Master Of Passion, Mister Johans, 10-1 Lenton Levis, 12-1 others.

1995: BRAVE EDGE 4-9-10 Psi Eddery (100-30 lzv) R Hannos 12 aux FORM FOCUS

SEIGNEURIAL dead-maked with Latching in Z5-namer bandcop at Rempton (87, pood) with MIS-TER JOLSON (80b better off) 4444 as, SEI JOEY 111b better off) 7941 1196, 1986CEP USMASTON 110b better off) 7941 1196, 1986CEP USMASTON 10b better off) 7941 1196, 1986CEP USMASTON 2nd of 20 to Baten Rose or a handleop at Misses off 1946 better off) 7941 1196, 1986CEP 2nd of 20 to Baten Rose or a handleop at Misses off 1946 better off) 7941 1196, 1986CEP 2nd of 20 to Baten Rose or a handleop at Misses off 1946 better off) 7941 1196, 1986CEP 2nd of 20 to Baten Rose or a handleop at Misses off 1946 better off) 7941 1196, 1946 2nd of 20 to Baten Rose or a handleop at Misses off 1946 better off) 7941 1196, 1946 2nd of 20 to Baten Rose or a handleop at Misses off 1946 better off) 7941 1196, 1946 2nd of 20 to Baten Rose or a handleop at Misses of 1946 better off) 7941 1196, 1946 2nd of 20 to Baten Rose or a handleop at Misses of 1946 better off) 7941 1196, 1946 2nd of 20 to Baten Rose or a handleop at Misses of 1946 better off) 7941 1196 2nd of 20 to Baten Rose or a handleop at Misses of 1946 better off) 7941 1196 2nd of 20 to Baten Rose or a handleop at Misses of 1946 better off) 7941 1196 2nd of 20 to Baten Rose or a handleop at Misses of 1946 better off) 7941 1196 2nd of 20 to Baten Rose or a handleop at Misses of 1946 better off) 7941 1196 2nd of 20 to Baten Rose or a handle

5.20 APRIL MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES

BETTIME: 2-1 Quota, 7-2 Linahoyed, 6-1 Annesy, Lothkonen, 8-1 Alessakona, 10-1 Fleme Valley, 12-1 others 1895 POTCROW R.11 D Harrison (11-2) J Fandrage 15 on FORM FOCUS

ALESSANDRA 15:1 2od of 5 to Poke Estates in a marken at Chapstow (71, soff). ANNESY 45:1 and of 11 to Demisted in a marken at Danaster (71m, good to Brim). HAME YALLEY 45:3 and of 5 to Magnificent Style in a marken at 150 points of 15 to Magnificent Style in a marken at 150 points. ANNESY (nap).

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Beverley

Going: good to turn 2.10 (5i) 1. Major Quality (D Homson, 13-8 lay): 2. Gomme (33-1) 3, Derk Deed (2-1) 12 tan NRT Autoborny SI, 11-4 J Fanshawe Tote: 52-60, 51-30, 52-4-40, 51-20 DF-9159,50 Tno 5225-80 CSF 547,70 2.40 (im 11 207yd) 1, Montecristo Lynch, 2.5 lav), 2, Phantom Dancer (16-

3.10 (71 100/d) 1, Coyota Bluff U Reid, 13-2); 2, Suatach (6-1); 3, Mybotye (6-1) State Of Cauton 5-4 lay 7 ran Shind, 4/ P Chapple Hyam. Tota. E 80; 52-40, 52-70 DF 218 10 CSF £41 95 or 10 to CST La Ma 3.40 (Im 100yd) 1, Freequent (O Urbna, 74 tar), 2, Met The Clouds (9-4); 3, Misky Bay (7-1) 12 ran NF Basinteboords 94, 23 L, Cuman Tote, 2320; £120, £140, £230 DF £350 Trio £10,00 CSF £558

2.30 LP 13.30 IN E1000 COS 13.30 Februar, 12-1), 2. Estemo Nel (11-4 Iso), 3. Marsadas 18-1), 4. Anchorera (14-1) 18 ran, NR- McGalycuddy Reeks 1-1, 141 D Morley Tolle 179 10, 23 70, 21 40, 21 70, 1-23 30, DF 149 60 Tol 247,00 mics) 22030 11-4 lavt; 2, Classic Colours (7-1); 3, Pine Noedle (9-2), 10 ran, 3, 1 Na J Durkop Tota 64 10, 17-50, 62:30, 62:10, 07: 230 Tra 672 30 CSF 623 623 Tintast 1982 37 Jackpot: \$3,586.50.

Placepot £28.30. Quadpot: £19.30. Perth Going: soft with heavy patches

2.00 (2m ch) 1, Grouse-N-Heather (A Dobbin, 2-1 lav) 2, Over The Island (7-2); 3, Walls Court (4-1) 9 ran 40, 23, P Montetin, Toto: 22, 30, 21, 10, 24, 40, 21, 50, DF: 24, 40 Tho: 23, 30, CSF, £8, 19. 100: 13:30. CSP: 16:18:1 Act Of Feith (P Neen, 13-8 tay), 2. Cragnabuoy, 14-1), 3. Naughty Fubre (9-2), 15:18.1. Ni., ns. N Caselos Tote 12:50, 13:30. 12:30, 18:0 DF \$13:80 Tro \$11:40 CSP: \$23:25. 3.00 (2m ch) 1, Political Tower IA Dobbin, 2-1); 2, Wee Rivet (13-8 lav), 3, Super Sandy (16-1), 7 ran 191, ¥I R Naton Toter 23.00; £1 40, £1 40 DF; £3.00 CSF; £5.46 3,30 (2m 110)d hale) 1, Eight Sharp (R Gartley, 9-2) 2, Principal Player (7-4 lev), 3, Drumdoma (25-1) 11 ran 5, 51 M Hammond, Tote 65 70; 62-10, 61 40, 92-50 DF 68 60 Tine 630.90 CSF 612 56

12.50 DF-28.60 The 130.30 CS-121.58
1.00 (3m ch) 1. Little Wenlock (Mrs V Jackson, 25-1); 2. Romany King (100-30); 3. Southern Minstrel (2-1). Howaymen 7-4 law fig. 7 an. 3, 8 Mrs D Gloson Tote 23 10, 15 00, 12 40 DF 148 10 CSF 298 58
1.00 (2m 41 110yd holle) 1. Urban Dancing (G Cahril, 11-2); 2. Johns The Boy (7-1), 3, Scarbs (9-4 law), 7 an. 3, ris. B Buson, Tote 25 40; (22.40, 22.60 DF £13.70, CSF; 239.40
Placeport: 250.20. Guadoot: 255.30. Piacepot: £90.20. Guadpot: £55.30.

Fontwell Park

£3.00. CSF £3.51 4.50 (2m & mole) 1, Thm (S Fox, 100-30 |-fax): 2, Haumang Muse (5-1); 3, Spring Grass 1100-30 (F-lay) 12 ren 134, 8 J Jembrs Toter £3.90, £1.70, £2.20, £1.10 DF: £12.50 Thr. £5.60 CSF £18.38 5.20 (2m Zi hole) 1, Antonio Mariano (P Hole, 6-1); 2, Colerotogo (7-2), 3, Pretonia Dancer (11-4) Wirksting Buck 9-4 lav. 12 ran 161, 9, J Gillord, Toter £8.00, £2.20, £1.50, £1.30, DF, £12.50 Thr. £22.70 CSF £26.85 Placepot: \$258.60. Quadpot: \$19,00.

☐ Double Eclipse broke the Longchamp course record by 2.7 seconds yesterday when winning the group three Prix de Barbeville by 2½ lengths. The British challenger, heavily backed down to 21-10 jointfavourite, comfortably defeated Samiri, who snatched second place on the line from Helen Of Spain.

PERTH

THUNDERER 2.20 Executive Design. 2.55 Rallegio. 3.25 Fiveleigh Builds 4.00 Stash The Cash. 4.30 Betty's Boy. 5.00 Agistment. 5.30 Freno.

going, soft

2.20 HILLTOWN PROPERTY COMPANY JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (\$2,775; 2m 110yd) (4 runners)

1 5411 EXECUTIVE DESIGN 33 (D.S.S) Mrs M Revoley 11-7 P Novem 98 2 4155 MARROHANT MRNC 29 (D.E.S) M Hammond 11-7 . P Earnby 89 3 USPP IRST 98TE 67 T Day 10-12 A Oobbon — 4 034 TRYPH 10 M Hammond 10-7 Mr C Bonner (3) 65 8-11 Executive Design 6-4 Marchard Eding, 3-1 Triple, 20-1 First Bille

2.55 CAMPBELL, BOATH CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,996; 2m 4i 110yd) (13) SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (FZ.996: 2m 41 110yd) (13)

1 -915 RALEGIO 32 (RF.5) Pitentarit 7-12-0 S Cahal 99

2 3124 JOHN F 18 (6.5) Mr. 15 Freeby 7-11-10 C McCommack (8) 98,

3 345 THE LANGHING LORD F (6.5) As Macs. 1 Ressel 10: 12-8 F Leathy 98

4 3PP EPPLORE MUNION, 8 (N) 7 Dre 5-11-5 A Liban (8) 91,

5 6PP FREEER COMPY 105 J Backly (b-10-17 E Callaghan 80

6 PF4 EASEN HOPES 309 (6) M Same 10-10-10 A Watt (5) 7

4 PPA COPPERMENTS 19 (6) M Same 10-10-10 B Harding 90

8 393 MATERIA STREAMS 10 (6) M Same 10-10-10 B Harding 90

9 6030 MATERIA STREAMS 25 (13 6 Bit and 10-10 B M Homos 5) 90

10 -045 SCHOOL OF SCHOOL 25'R LESSED 6-10-0 B Medicals (5) 90

10 -045 SCHOOL OF SCHOOL 25'R LESSED 6-10-0 B Medicals (5) 90

10 505 MILL TOWN RULES 31 (6.5.5) I Due 5-10-1 D Parker 84

13 0006 DOLLY PROCES 11 0'S Mith 11-10-0

13 MODE DOLLY PROCES 12 0'S MITH 11-10-0

13 MODE DOLLY PROCES 12 0'S MITH 11-10-0

13 BOOK DOLLY PROCES 12 0'S MITH 11-10-0

13 BOOK DOLLY PROCES 12 0'S MITH 11-10-0

14 Bellevin (6) 98

15 Harding 90

15 Harding 90

17 PROCES 11 0'S MITH 11-10-0

18 Harding 90

18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 18 JOHN 1

7-2 Januare 9-2 Rollegia, Capparture: 7-1 The Laughing Lord, 8-1 Rivers End, 10-1 Hallitonia Blues, 14-1 attacks 3.25 SUN LIFE OF CANADA HANDICAP CHASE

7-4 Fivelengh Builds, 3-1 Astrogr., 7-2 Narita, 5-1 Ceubith Boy, 10-1 Born Deep, 14-1 Front Line. COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRANSERS: Mrs M Reveley, 24 winners from 52 natures, 45.2%; N Bakey, 11 from 26, 42.3%, L Longo, E from 24, 33.3%, M Hammond, 21 from 79, 26.6%, J Goldie, 4 from 20, 20.0%

4.00 GLOBAL MARINE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE

6-4 Highlank, 4-1 Current Speech, 6-1 Stack The Cash, Daphnis, 7-1 Myway, 12-1 Marco Magnilloo, Bonzer, 75-1 others.

4.30 ERNST & YOUNG HOVICES CHASE

(£5,784° 2m 41 110yd) (5) 1 -724 BETTY'S BDY 44 (F.G.S) K Baley 7-11-12 R Dumvo 2 P244 FFTYSEVENCHANNELS 18 (D.G.S) Mrs. J Brown 7-11-12 3 2112 ROCKET RUN 2 (D.F.G.S) Mes. L Russell 8-11-12 A Thomson 83 4 P232 EAST HOUSTON 2 F.G. J. J U Ned 7-11-7. _ _ L Wyer 83 5 223 WHOTE DUMBOND 11 (V.B.F.5) Mes. L Russell 8-11-3 M Foster 74

8-11 Betry's Boy, 4-1 Rockel Run, 11-2 Rithysevenchannels, 10-1 others 5.00 TOM DYER & CO STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (Div): £2,511 2m 110yd) (10)

5-4 Agristment, 3-1 Audemoch Prince, 6-1 Callernish Dan, 7-1 Game Drive, 16-1 Phar Echo Hadestry Last, 20-1 others

5.30 TOM DYER & CO STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (Div II: \$2,490, 2m 110vd) (9)

| FILENO K Balley S-11-2 | R Durneroody | FILENO K Balley S-11-2 | R Gartity | PVRRO M Hearmond S-11-2 | R Gartity 2-1 Franc, 4-1 The Starrow Legend, 9-2 Hydro, Northern Further, 10-1 others

BLINKERED RRST TIME: Cartisle: 3.50 Thomsoun Estate 4.55 freshyato's Magic. 5.25 Strathtore Dream Ludlow: 5.45 Pruc's Problem 7.45 Haye Busier 8.15 Riverbanh Rose Perth: 4.30 White Dramond Taunton: 5.30 Lawbuster 6.30 Majbox: Yalooz. 7.30 Logie Sandown Partic 4.10 Cyprosa Avenue

CARLISLE

THUNDERER 2.10 Jib Jab. 2.45 Sagebrush Roller. 3.15 Night Wink. 3.50 Go-Go-Power-Ranger. 4.20 Migwar. 4.55 Heathyards Magic. 5.25 Foist.

GOING; GOOD TO SOFT DRAW: 5F-1M, HIGH BEST SIS

2.10 BUZZARD MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-0: £3,264: 51) (9 runners)

2.45 KESTREL CLAIMING STAKES (Div I: £2,283. 6f 206yd) (9)

N Comportug 2 J Tate 9 3 0-20 PROUD INASE 13 (V.D.F.S) A Javes 4-8-13. J Tare 4 0556 SERESS FOUR 30 (8.6) Mrs. I. States 8-8-7 . J Fortune 5 5 0-50 (V.B.M.E.) KNIG 22 (2.0) F.D. F. Arison 8-5 . S D Williams 8 5 0-30 P.A.MISONO 17 (0.5.5) J Bethell 4-9-3 . 7 Williams 7 5 0-4 TO PROUE A POINT 23 (8) J J O'Neil 4-8-3 . D McKennen 7 8 0-40 SALLYOMEALLY 18 W Samp 5-8-2 . J Faming 3 9 00- THEUSHWOOD 352 N Drambetan 4-8-1 . . . N Carlists 6 1 Control of the 10 o 2-1 Soptimesh Roller, 9-4 Proof Image, 7-1 De-Pors Curre, Flamboro, 8-1 Number King, 10-1 To Prove A Point, 12-1 others

3,15 GOLDEN EAGLE HANDICAP {£3,713: 7l 214yd) (11)

9-4 Il's Academic, 4-1 Noght Hink, 5-1 Makrai, 8-1 Percy Brakhweike, Sur's Return, 12-1 Best Di All, 14-1 when

3.50 MERLIN HANDICAP (£3,599. 1m 4f) (15) 3.30 MERLIN HANDICAP (£3.599. 1m 4i) (15)

1 00-1 ARINTAN 15 (6) 4 Duning 3-9-7 ... K Dariey to
2 2-5 SOK CLERKS 36 5 Firegrend 3-8-11 ... K Fallon 12
3 2-12 ANCISON PARIS 8 (0.5) 7 Exercity 3-8-10 ... M Birch 3
4 00-4 GO WITH THE WIND 30 M Bell 3-8-9 ... M Birch 3
5 -131 SIEGE PERILDUS 18 (0.F.S) 5 Williams 3-8-9 ... J Tale 15
6 003- STATE APPROVAL 18 10 A Januar 3-8-6 ... P Robinson 8
8 3244 THOURNOUN ESTATE 23 (8.5) M Jahnshan 3-8-3 D McKenown 13
9 00-0 AMPSAYAS 18 M Lanacho 3-8-1 ... L Daries 2-8-1
10 0-02 GO-GO-POWER-RANGER 11 B Effica 3-8-1 ... IN Water (3) 11
12 164 PANAMA JNE 11 (6) M Johnston 3-7-12 ... T Williams 7
13 0-00 SEMERIA (9.0 M 18 N Bycath 3-7-10 ... D Wingle (3) 6
14 00-0 QUET MOMERTS 18 P Maryby 7-10 ... D Wingle (3) 6
15 -536 ORDANGED 18 E Nation 3-7-10 ... D Wingle (3) 6
14 Muthad, 9-2 Jackson Park 8-1 Sx Cheris, Sege Parlious, 12-1 often 7-4 Muhtadi, 9-2 Jackson Park, 8-1 Str Clerks, Siege Perilous, 12-1 others

4.20 sparrow hawk maiden stakes

2 AMMA SOLER, 22 M Cremton 9-0 J Frantiste 4
LALLANS M Johnston 9-0 J Wearver 3
CS-2 MIGWAR 181 Courses 9-0 K Darley 1
3 HORBOR HERO 13 A Sarver 9-0 J Table 5
HSSPECTING Denys Smith 9-0 K Fallon 5
CLASSIC COLLER'S Wildsars 8-9 A Mackey 8
G BLOORAN SOUND 179 T Easterby 8-9 M Berch 7
D TROUKA 18 J Berry 8-9

IN TROUKA 18 J Berry 8-9 4-5 Mignay, 1)-2 Lallans, 13-2 Anna Soleil, 10-1 Nortic Hern, 12-1 others

4.55 KESTREL CLAIMING STAKES (Div II: £2,283; 6t 206yd) (8)

1 30-0 TEE TEE TOO 7 (G) A Hartson 4-9-7
2 40-0 PALACEGATE TOUCH 15 (B.D.G.5) J Berry 6-9-1 J Cierroli 4
3 2284 AT THE SAVOY 39 (B.G) Mark 1 Sabbts 5-9-9 J Fortune 3
4 0-02 HEATHYARD 8ASIC 23 (B.G) M Dods 4-8-9 K Derley 2
5 46-0 THWARD 25 F Walton 4-8-9 M Fetton 7
6 4-00 KASHARARA 9 W SIMP 4-8-5 J Factoring 6
7 // O BRANDLES WAY 30 (A) W Basics 7-8-3 L Charmock 5
8 // 00 CHANDOTAGAIN 8 B Murray 4-8-0 T Williams 1 9-4 Healingards Magir, 4-1 Palacagale Touch, Ter Tee Too, Azstana, 8-1 others

5.25 PEREGRINE HANDICAP (\$2,871: 51) (17)

5-2 Basalo, 9-2 Fotal, 7-1 Pataco, 6-1 Superpride, Jagram Boy, 10-1 others

County prospects for the summer of '96



THERE is something about Dean Jones that quickens the pulse and he is an inspired signing. Jones brings with him Les Stillman, the coach of Victoria. and the prospect is exciting all at the club. It needs to. Derbyshire have spent three years in the bottom four of the championship, a mockery of their ability.

They have potentially the best pace attack in the country, though Malcolm, Cork and DeFreitas have seldom fired together, even on their seam-friendly pitches. Jones must see that they do, though he should be mindful that some of Cork's energies will need to be preserved for the national interest.

Jones will not find such a wealth of spin bowlers, which is why Derbyshire cannot hope to win the championship. But if the new captain and the old, Kim Barnett, bat as they can, and Chris Adams fulfils his promise, a one-day trophy is feasible.

170 Pty IS IE 25 ID IC.

1995: Britannic Assurance County
Chemotonship: 14th. AXA Equity &
Law League: 8th. Natilyest Trophy:
quarter-finals. Benson and Hedges
Cup: group stage.

1996 STAFF: D M Jones (captein,
overseas), C J Adams, P Aldred, K J
Bernet, S J Base, M E Cassar, D G
Cork, K J Dean, P A J DeFreitas, F A
Griffith, S P Griffith, A J Henris, K M
Kritken, S J Lacey, M R May, D E
Malcolm, T JG O'Gorman, JE Owen
A S Rollins, B Soendowe, T A Tweats,



Dean Jones, centre, brought in from Australia to revive Derbyshire's fortunes

BRITANNIC ASSURANCE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Winners: 995,000. Runners-up: 230,000. Third: £15,000.

NATIVEST TOOTH; WITHOUT \$2,000. Sent frailate: £10,500. Quarter-finalists: £5,250. AXA ECRIFY: & LAW LEAGUE: Without £40,000. Runners acc £20,000. Third: £10,000. Footh: £5,000. BENSON AND HEDGES CUP: Without £40,000. Senting £20,000.
MINISTER ZIVA		-		
25,000	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			• •
25,000. BI	ETTEN	S		
-				OL.
		NWT		
Derbyshire	20.1	18-1	25-1	28-1
Colorano i mano		40-i	88-i	27 4
<u>Duchém</u>				
Essex		9-1	12-1	
Glamorgan	66-1	25-1	25-1	33-1
Gloucestershire	16-1	20-1	33-1	20.1
Hampehire		28-t		
Kent	16-1	10-1	9-2	
Lancastare	7-1	6-1	5-1	· 7-1
Leicoiders int	20-1	12.1	25-1	
LOCOMO DEC				
Miciologica	5-1	8-1		7-1
N theiriptonshire	-8- 1	14-1		10-1
Nottingramatike .	33-1	33 1	33-1	25-1
Somental	20-1	18-L	33-1	
Surrey	20-1	12-1		13-2
Susséx	56-1	20-1	20-1	76-7
Warwiciatisa	2-1	5-1	5-1	5-1
Worcestershire	14-i	ğ-1		10-1
		25-1	25-1	
Yorkshire	20-1	∠	⊘ -i	251

Assessments by Alan Lee



JUST what is going on at the Oval? During a chaotic winter. Surrey have changed their chairman, chief executive and coaching staff, lost the overseas player who might have transformed frem and made a huge loss. Alec Stewart remains as captain. marooned on the burning deck with no realistic chance of a championship

challenge. Brian McMillan's withdrawal from his contract was a grievous blow. Brendon Julian is the replacement, and not a bad one, but the recovery of new signing Chris Lewis from a doubt. The seam Stewart thought he had has simply not materialised.

Dave Gilbert, from Queensland, who takes over as coach, will need all his talents to rid Surrey of the fatalism that has blighted several seasons past, but they have enough talent to win a one-day event.

1995: Britannic Assurance County Chempionship: 12th AXA Equity & Law League: 9th: NetWest Trophic, second round. Benson and Heologic

DURHAM

optimistic for Durham's season. I made the mistake last year, on the basis of a new home and a new captain, and squirmed as they finished seventeenth in the championship and sixteenth in the Sunday eague. In four years as a first-class side they have not escaped from the bottom three of the championship and they are unlikely to start now, even with Nor-

man Gifford as coach. Mike Roseberry, their captain, can hardly have another such barren vear with the bat and there is still scope for advancement in Jimmy Daley and Stewart

IT IS impossible to be Hutton. But Sherwin Campbell, an exotic shotmaker, is an odd overseas signing for the quirky new The bowling burden will again fall on Simon Brown. In another team, this talented left-armer would probably have played for England; with Durham, he is being dragged down.

1895; Britannic Assurance County Championship: 17th. AXA Equity & Law League: 16th. NatWest Trophy: 2nd round. Benson and Hedges Cup:

group stage.

1996 STAFF: M A Roseberry (captain).
P Bernbridge, M M Belts S D Birback.
D A Blenkiron, J Boiling, S J E Brown, C
L Campbell, S L Campbell (overseas).
P D Collingwood, D M Cox, J A Daley.
S Hutton, N Killeen, D G C Ligerbrood,
J I Longley, S Lugsdon, J E Morris, A
Pratt, C W Scott, J P Searle, A Walker.
R M S Weston, J Wood.



HAMPSHIRE

JOHN STEPHENSON left Essex to acquire a county captaincy but he has inherited the job at Hampshire at an unenviable time. The team is the weakest for two decades and the club has been dealt a stinging blow by the rejection of its appli-cation for National Lottery funds for a new ground in which it has invested heavily.

It is one of the stars of the team of the mid-1980s who will give Stephenson reasons for optimism. Malcolm Marshall is to have senior duties as coach, alongside Tim Tremlett, and his influence, already seen in the second XI, who

won last year's champion-ship, will be fascinating. Liam Botham now has a

full contract but will have to wait his turn behind Jason Laney and the unorthodox Paul Whitaker. Jim Bovill's full recovery from a back injury is crucial to an attack in which Winston Benjamin returns as overseas player.

returns as overseas player.

1995: Britannic Assurance County
Championship: 13th AXA Equity &
Law League: 18th NetWest Trophy:
first round Benson and Hedges Cup:
group stage
1996 STAFF: J P Stephenson (captain), A N Aymes W K M Benjamni
(overseas), L J Botham, J N B Bovill,
A Cornor, R R Dbden, S R G Francis,
M Garaway, K D James, M Keech, W S
Kendall, J S Leney, R J Maru, S M
Milbum, R S M Morris, S J Renshaw, L
Sawdent, R A Smith, V P Terry, D M
Thomas, M J Thursfield, G R Treagus,
S D Udal, P R Whiteler, G W White.



MIDDLESEX

MIDDLESEX won nothing last year, yet they contributed fully to a marvellous scrap for the championship and are likely contenders once more. The caveat is the absence of John Emburey, which will test Philip Tufnell's temperament for taking on the greater re-sponsibility of leading the

spin attack. The seam bowling looks strong but is reliant on fitness. Fraser has had a groin operation since England's winter tour and Johnson, who missed the trip with a back injury, now has a shoulder strain. Nash is with New Zealand on tour in the Caribbean.

sex's prime asset will be self-belief, engendered by Gatting's captaincy and sustained by the strong characters within the side. Gatting, pushing 39, will make his usual stack of runs and watch out for the emergence of the teenagebatsman, Owais Shah.

As ever, though, Middle-

Datsman, CWals Shan.

1995: Britannic Assusance County Championship: 2nd AXA Equity & Law League: 17th. Natifiest Trophy: quarter-finats Benson and Hedges Cup: quarter-finats. Benson and Hedges Cup: quarter-finats.

1996 STAFF: M W Getting (captain), I N Banchett, K R Brose, J D Can, K P Dutch, M R Evans, R A Fay, M A Fetham, D Polist, A R C Fraser D J Goodchild, J C Hamson, J P Hesset, B L Johnson, A A Khan, S P Molfat, D C Nash, D J Nash, J C Pooley, M R Rangrakash U B A Rashid, O A Shah, P C R Tufnef, P N Weekes, P N Weekes.



ONE Barbadian, Desmond Haynes, takes over as coach, and another. Vasbert Drakes, as overseas player. But all else is unchanged at Hove, right down to the deckchaired lawns at the top of the ground that have gratifyingly been spared redevelopment. Sadly, the unchanging scene may extend to an empty trophy case.

For two years, Sussex's batting has been woeful. Alan Wells is exempt and in his benefit year he will at least have better support. Martin Speight is back, after a year of illness, and the most inventive batsman in the country will again

nings. More is needed. though, from Greenfield, Lenham and Hall.

The bowling is as well balanced as any attack and if Giddins. Lewry and the off spinner, Phillips, continue to advance, they will bowl teams out. Salisbury is the key. A good season from him could carry Sussex into



ESSEX

IT HAS been a bleak time by Essex standards — they have won nothing for three seasons - but they may reemerge this year, both as the greatest threat to a hattrick of championships for Warwickshire and as oneday trophy material. Graham Gooch deserves some reward in his 24th, and

probably last, season. Gooch is one feature of an attractive batting line-up in which Nasser Hussain need only maintain his resurgence to resume his Test career. Stuart Law is a fine deputy for Mark Waugh and there should be better to come from the batting wicketkeeper. Robert Rollins, 22, and opener Darren Robinson, 23. Paul Grayson, from

Yorkshire, is another shrewd signing by a club renowned for them and he will provide spin support for Childs and Such. If Ilott stays fit and Irani develops, Essex will surely something.

1995: Britannic Assurance County Championship: 5th. AXA Equity & Law League: 5th. NetWest Trophy: 2nd round Benson and Hedges Cup: group stage

Cup: group stage
1996 STAFF: P J Prichard (capitaln). S
JW Andrew. D W Ayers, J H Childs, D
M Cousins, A P Cowan, N A Derby-shire, G JA Goodwin, G A Goodh, A P
Grayson, J O Grove, A J E Hibbert, T P
Hodgson. N Hussain, B J Hyann, M
Ilott, R C Iran, S G Law (overseas), J J
B Lawis, S D Peters, J C Powel, D D J
Robinson, R J Rollins, P M Such, N F
Williams



THE dichotomy of the English game was perfectly illustrated by Kent last season - bottom in the championship yet top of the Sunday league. The members, who prefer ties to Tshirts, were not happy and one even tried to drum up support for an extraordinary general meeting.

The one significant change in the squad is the return of Carl Hooper for Aravinda de Silva. This might produce a few more wickets, though probably no more runs, and Kent need some of the young brigade, particularly Walker and Fulton among the batsmen and Spencer, as a bowler, to make their mark. Dean Headley has already emerged and could soon be a Test bowler.

That honour will not come again to either McCague or Igglesden but Kent could do with them both remaining fit. Min Patel regressed last year. but could come again.

1995; Britannic Assurance County Championship: 18th AXA Equity & Law League: champions. NatWest Trophy: second round Benson and Hedges Cup: runners-up

Hedges Cup: runners-up
1996 STAFF: M R Benson (captain),
G R Cowdrey, M A Eafham, M V
Fleming, J A Ford, D P Futton, D W
Headley, C L Hooper (oversess); W J
House, A P Igglesdan, N J Llong, M J
McCague, S A Marsh, M M Patel, B J
Philips, N W Preston, E T Smith, D J
Spencer, E J Stanford, N R Taylor, J B
D Thompson, M J Walker, C D Walsh,
T R Ward, S C Willis, T N Wren.



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

THEY could justifiably feel sorry for themselves after finishing without reward for last year's gallantry, but a new captain and coach should help to clear the hangover. Allan Lamb has gone and Rob Bailey takes over the side and, for the most part, his coach. John Emburey, will be playing under him.

Emburey's registration as a contested player reflected concern over the loss of Lamb's seniority and Anil wickets. Kumble's Emburey says he does not intend to play full-time, but form may dictate otherwise. The overseas job reverts to Curtly Ambrose, who will

remain a handful as long as his enthusiasm lasts.

The batting is extended by the all-rounders, Capel and Curran, and strengthened by the potential of Russell Warren, Mal Loye and David Sales. They ought to win something but will it. at long last, be the championship?

1995: Britannic Assurance County Championship: Srd. AXA Equity & Law League: 13th NatWest Trophy: namers-up Benson and Hedges Cup: group stage.

Cup: group stage.

1996 STAFF: R J Balley (captamir, C E
L Ambrose (overseas), T M B Balley, S
A J Boswell, J F Brown, D J Capet, K M
Curran, J E Emburey, A Footham, J G
Rughes, K J Innes, M B Loye, N A
Mailender, R R Montgomene, A L
Penberthy, D Roberts, D J
Roberts, D J Sales, J N Snape, V
Steele, A J Swann, J P Taylor, T C
Walton, R J Warren.



IT IS a long time since a team began a season quoted at only 2-1 for the championship, but Warwickshire deserve it. Middlesex and Northamptonshire - could feel they had done enough to win last year's title, but Warwickshire were relentless in their defence. Fourresults and the best teams usually win: that suits War-

wickshire well. Enthusiasm for a third successive title — not achieved since Yorkshire in 1968 - must be moderated. They have lost Allan Donald, though his role as bowling coach will benefit his replacement, Shaun Pol-

lock, and they have lost Roger Twose to New Zealand. Better news is that Andy Moles is fit again.

This may be Dermot Reeve's final year as captain and he is likely to go out with at least one trophy, for Warwickshire have made themseives the best at both day cricket produces more one-day and four-day cricket.

cricket.

1995: Britannic Assurance County
Championship: champions. AXA Equity & Law League: 2nd. NatWest
Trophy: wrmers. Benson and
Hedges Cup: group stage.

1996 STAFF: D A Reeve (captain), D
A Attree, M A V Bell, D R Brown, M
Burns, M Edmond, T Frost, A F Gites.
W G Khan, N V Knight, S McDonald, A
J Moles, T A Munton, D P Ostler, T I,
Penney, K J Piper, S M Pollock
(overseas), M J Powell, A Singh, G C
Smail, N M K Smith, P A Smith, S
Vestergaard, M A Wagh, G Welch.



GLAMORGAN

THE heady summer of 1993, when Glamorgan won the Sunday league and fin-ished third in the championship, is now a distant and curious memory at Cardiff, where there is a sense of punctured expectation. Hugh Morris, a casualty of the mood, has handed on the captaincy to Matthew Maynard, whose first assignment will be to restore respectability in the four-day game.

Four batsmen averaged above 40 last season but Dale, Hemp and Croft, England A players who have not trained on, were disappointing. Croft took 56 championship wickets but

bowled a lot of overs for them. He is on the brink of being a fine cricketer but

needs to take that final step. Ottis Gibson's return improves seam support for Steve Watkin but Glamorgan's greatest wish must be for the maturing of the strapping Darren Thomas. an exciting prospect.

1995: Britannic Assurance County Championship: 16th, AXA Equity & Law Leegue: 6th, NatiWest Trophy: sami-finals, Benson and Hedges Cup: group stage. Cup: group stage.

1996 STAFT: M P Maynard (captain),
SR Banwick, G P Butcher. D A Cosker.
P A Cotley, R D B Croft, A Dale, A J
Dalton, A P Devies, G J M Edwards, A
W Evans. R E Evens, O D Gibson
(overseas), I Gompertz, D L Hemp, S
P James, P S Jones, N M Kendrick, W
Law, C P Merson, B M Morgan, H
Morris, O T Parkin, A D Shaw, S D
Thomas, S L Walkin, J R A Williams.



LANCASHIRE

DISAPPOINTMENT at winning only one trophy said much for the lofty expectations at Old Trafford last year but the sights may be lowered now. Lancashire have lost an inspirational overseas player in Wasim Akram and an inventive coach in David Lloyd. Both may be back but for this summer their absence will combine with a potentially draining level of

Test calls. It is 46 years since Lancashire so much as shared the title, far too long for a big and ambitious club. Sometimes they have suffered from confused priorities and a lack of belief in their ability in the longer game. This year, it will be realism that dictates the one-day arena as their best chance of silverware. Steve Elworthy, a South African, deputises for Wasim and Gary Keedy needs to advance his leftarm spin if they are to win more often on their own pitches.

Cup: winners.

1996 STAFF: M Wetkinson (captain), M A Atherton, I D Austin, C Brown, G Chapple, M Chilton, J P Crawley, S Bworthy (oversees), N H Fairbrother, A Hintoli, J E R Gallen, R J Green, M E Harvey, J J Haynes, W K Hegg, G Keedy, G D Lloyd, P C McKsown, L J Marland, P J Martin, P M Ridgway, D J Shadford, N J Speek, D J Thompson, S P Titchard, N T Wood, G Yates.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

NO GREAT cause for optimism here. Nottinghamshire contrived to lose their last six championship games last summer, and although injuries could partly be blamed, they are a team in decline. Chris Toliey and Ashley Metcalfe. the close-season signings, are unlikely to alter that.

Paul Johnson is the new captain, after eight years of Tim Robinson's melancholy body language and conservative methods, but Robinson will continue as the pivot of the batting.

Much rests upon Chris Cairns, when he arrives back from New Zealand's tour of the Caribbean. He

will again be the strike bowler, without much support, and his middle-order hitting will be crucial, especially in one-day cricket. In the championship, where a top-half placing is the best they can expect. Notting-hamshire will look to their left-arm spinners, Hindson

and Afzaal. 1995: Britannic Assurence County Championship: 11th. AXA Equity & Law League: 11th. NetWest Trophy: second round. Benson and Hedges Cup: quarter-finals.

Cup: Quarter-finals.
1996 STAFF: P. Johnson (captain), J.A.
Afford, U. Alzaal, G. F. Archer, R. T.
Battes, M.N. Bowen, M. Broadhurst, C.L.
Carims (overseas), R. J. Chepman, M. P.
Dowman, K. P. Evans, N. A. Cile, J. P.
Hart, J. E. Hindson, A. A. Metoatle, G. W.
Mike, M. Newell, W. M. Noon, D. B.
Pennett, R. A. Pick, P. R. Polland, L. N.
P. Malker, B. T. Rubinson, C. M. Totley, L. N.
P. Walker, G. E. Welton, J. R. Willeman.



WORCESTERSHIRE

TOM MOODY had to step into the breach as Western Australia's captain during the winter, which was not his ideal once he had pledged his future to the same job at New Road. He is a capable man, though. and the right one to reinvigorate Worcestershire's cricket after two poor years

in the championship.

The problem is that their seam attack has grown old. Radford has now retired, so the remaining stalwarts. Newport and Lampitt, will look for support from James Brinkley and Paul Thomas. Alamgir Sheriyar, from Leicestershire, can expect plenty of bowling.

Moody, Hick and Curtis will, as usual, dominate the batting, but if Worcestershire are to make consistently high scores in fourday cricket, Weston, Leatherdale and Haynes must improve their averages. The club could add to its four one-day trophies in nine years, but remain midtable in the championship.

table in the championship.

1995: Britannic Assurance County
Championship: 10th. A&A Equity &
Law League: 3rd. NatWest Trophy:
second round. Benson and Hedges
Cup: sent-linels.

1996 STAFF: T M Moody (captain,
overseas), JE Brindey, M J Church, T
S Curits, I Dawood, M Diwen, S W K
Elis, C P Harrison, G R Haynes, G-A
Hick, R K filingworth, S R Lampitt, D A
Leatherdale, P J Newport, B E A
Presce, J T Ratph. M Hawnsley, S J
Rhodes, A Shenyar, V S Sotanki, K R
Spring, P A Thomas, W P C Weston.



GLOUCESTERSHIRE

SCORNING the dismissive forecasts of all and sundry, Gloucestershire were the most improved team of last season. Can they keep it up? The bookmakers are taking no chances with them this year (16-1 for the championship rather than 50-1) and Courtney Walsh is back as

captain and strike bowler. The squad, minus Walsh and Jack Russell, went to a training camp in Zimbabwe earlier this month, when the apparently restored fitness of Mike Smith was cheering. The left-armer could yet play Test cricket and will certainly form a potent spearhead with Walsh, in an attack augmented by the

spin of Richard Davis. signed from Warwickshire. Rob Curdiffe, with the bat, and Jon Lewis, with the ball, are young players to watch but undoubtedly the most exciting will be the controversial Andrew Symonds, who is apparently ready to accept that he has a better chance of playing for England than Australia. 1936: Britannic Assurance County Chempionship: 6th. AXA Equity & Law League: 15th. NatWest Trophy: quarter-finals. Benson and Hedges Cup: quarter-finals

Cup: quarter-finels
1996 STAFF: C A Walsh (captein, oversees), M W Alleyne, M C J Ball, D J P Boden, M J Cawdron, K E Cooper, R J Cunliffe, R P Davis, R I Dawson, T H C Hancock, D R Hawson, J Lewis, M A Lynch, V J Pflee, R C Russell, K P Sheeraz, A M Smith, A Symonds, J G Whitby-Coles, R C J Williams, M G N Windows, A J Wright.



LEICESTERSHIRE

THEY have become unfashionable since winning trophies under Raymond Illingworth and friends under David Gower but Leicestershire are never to be underestimated. James Whitaker will bring freshness and ambition to the captaincy he has coveted for years and they should once more finish in the top half of

the championship table. To fare better than that will require the sustained form and fitness of Millns and Mullally, a spiky opening attack, and a substantial all-round input from the new vice-captain, Phil Simmons. In 1994, Sim-

mons made 261 in the

opening game but never again reached 100. More is

Nigel Briers, the former captain, misses the opening weeks through injury so there is a chance for Darren Maddy to establish himself. This is also a big year for Ben Smith, who has begun with a century at the Parks. 1995: Britannic Assurance County Championship: 7th. AXA Equity & Law League: 7th. NatWest Trophy: second round Benson and Hedges second round Benson and Hedges Cup; group stage. 1996 STAFF; J J Whitaker (captain), S Bartle, N E Briers, M T Brimson, V P Clarks, C D Crowe, J M Dekin, A Habib, G I Macmillan, D L Maddy, T A Mason, D J Millins, A D Mullatly, P A Nason, J Ormond, G J Parsons, A R K Pierson, C C Rierry, P E Robinson, P V Simmons (overseas), B F Smith, D I Stavens, I J Sutclifte, V J Wells, P Whittlease, D Williamson.

because of their exciting young opening batsmen and the potency of their new-ball bowlers. In the event, the batsmen, Lathwell and Trescothick, both played badly enough to be dropped and the fast bowlers, Caddick and van Troost, were fit for only six games each. The outcome

Caddick says he is now finally over his shin prob-lems; if so, he could still be an England bowler. Confidence was the problem for Lathwell and Trescothick

SOMERSET

SOMERSET'S prospects and that has been diligently repaired by the coach, Bob last year seemed rosy Cottam. The loss of Mushtaq Ahmed, who took 92 championship wickets last year, may turn Somerset's sights towards one-day events, in which the Australian. Shane Lee, is a potential match-winner. He bowls aggressively and hits the ball over tall buildings. was a mediocrity that will continue unless the four players produce more.

1995: Britannic Assurance County Championship: 9th AXA Equity & Law League: 13th NatWest Trophy: first round. Benson and Hedges Cup: 1996 STAFF: A N Hayhurst (captain), J D Batty, I E Bishop, P D Bowler, A R Caddick, M Dimond, S C Ecclestone, J C Hallett, R J Harden, P C L Holloway, J I D Kerr, M N Lathwell, S Lee (oversees), K A Parsons, G D Rose, K J Shina, M E Treacothick, H R J Trump, R J Tumer, A P van Troost.

YORKSHIRE

THERE is no shortage of young talent at Headingley and, if it is properly harnessed, David Byas, who takes on the captaincy from Martyn Moxon, could win something in his first year, which Moxon failed to do in

The fitness of the seam bowlers is paramount. Gough played only nine championship games last year and Chris Silverwood seven. Peter Hartley, now 36, requires better support this time, though Yorkshire can also filter in Wharf and Hutchison, both capable youngsters.

Michael Bevan's input has been recognised with

the vice-captaincy Craig White has been passed fit to start the season. He has a pivotal role, especially in the one-day game, probably Yorkshire's best arena. If they are to challenge in the championship, Stemp must spin sides out and McGrath must prove his batting potential. prove his batting potential.

1985: Britannic Assurance County
Championship: Bit. AXA Equity &
Law League: 12th. NatWest Trophy:
semi-linels. Berson and Hedges
Cup: quarter-linels.

1986 STAFF: D Byss (captaint, G J
Batty, M G Bevan (oversees), R J
Batty, M G Bevan (oversees), R J
Batty, C A Chepmen, 1 D Fisher, D
Gough, G M Hamilton, P J Hartley, M J
Hoggard, P M Hutchison, R A Kettleborough, A McGrath, A C Monts, M D
Mozon, B Parker, M A Robinson, C J
Schofield, R J Skiebottom, C E W
Silverwood, R D Skerno, M P Vaughen,
A G Wharf, C White, M J Wood.

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Leading candidates lack proven ability

FA has time on its side in search for Venables' successor

IRRESPECTIVE of England's performance in the forthcom-ing finals of the European championship, the question of a successor to Terry Venables as coach is being regarded with disproportionate urgency. Finding the right man is far more important than the

To make an appointment before the finals, solely for the sake of reaching a decision, would be potentially more damaging than any delay, if England got the wrong man. Given that the hands-on aspect of any England coach is necessarily part-time, it would be possible for Venables to continue on a match-to-match basis until such time as the Football Association was certain of getting a suitably qualified candidate. The platform that Venables has created will not disintegrate

Finding the right candidate is far more difficult than is at present being admitted. The difficulty is, if anything, emphasised by the relative success that Venables has so far achieved, with one defeat in 16 matches, seven victories and eight draws.

Against Croatia at Wembley on Wednesday night, England were exhibiting, after nearly two years' work and adaptation, a degree of sophistication in their tactics that was most encouraging; not to say unimaginable in the era of Graham Taylor.

The truth is that a managercoach with proven ability and experience, even approaching that of Venables', does not exist at present. The risk of making an error as serious as the appointment of Taylor in 1990 is, therefore, that much greater.

The FA, ignorant then of what it was doing sailed happily towards the horizon with Taylor, not pausing to consider that he had never won a significant trophy, had international, football, and had handled few international players. He was learning as he

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Getting the right man is far more

important for England than getting him right now, argues David Miller

with the players, "Coach," is really the wrong word. The man in charge of an international team has no opportunity to coach. His job is one of selection, player-judgment, choice of tactics, and the discussion with intelligent players on how to make the steep transfer from club to national stage.

Venables has managed to do this. A point to remember is that he was the unanimous choice of fellow professionals, His merits had been tried and tested with Queens Park Rangers, Barcelona and Tottenham Hotspur - but what

Bryan Robson has signed a two-year extension to his contract as the Middlesbrough manager, effectively ruling himself out of contention for the job of England coach when Terry Venables steps down after Euro 96. The deal will keep Robson at Middlesbrough until 1999. Robson, is understudy to Venables but has repeatedly said that he needs more experience before tackling the England job, said that he was looking forward to signing more quality players for Mid-

of his successor? The most prominent manager in England is Scottish and, whatever logic there might be in considering a foreigner — the FA is not traditionally strong on logic - it is unthinkable that it would contemplate Alex Ferguson, unavoidably perceived in the context of international football as the tartan enemy.

dlesbrough next season.

The frontrunners, therefore, are Kevin Keegan, Glenn possibly, Ray Wilkins, None of them. I would say, is as yet ready, never mind whether or not they seek the job. None

has, as yet, won a significant trophy, nor demonstrated whether they can handle in-

tense, front-line scrutiny. Keegan comes closest, and his preference for open play is an appealing qualification. Reality suggests that this might not prosper in the international arena. He needs

So does Hoddle. The campaign to promote him seems particularly premature. His own international career oscillated partly on account of managerial hesitancy - lack of conviction - and partially through his own inability to deliver, consistently, those qualities that made him so

admired at White Hart Lane. Furthermore, is Hoddle's temperament tough enough to handle a squad in which all 20 players are, or think they are, star quality? The only real star at Chelsea is a genial, amiable Dutchman. Hoddle needs longer in the club crucible.

it seems to me that there are two options for the FA: the broad-minded, venturesome appointment of an established foreign coach, or the persuasion of Venables. For all his assertion that he does not wish to continue, it is the logical course for both parties. Venables is the first England coach since Sir Alf Ramsey who truly understands the acute difference between the club and the national job.

As Miljan Miljanic, the Yugoslavia manager and now chairman, long ago said: "The club manager selects a squad and tries to find a system that enables them to play. The international coach must choose a system, and then find the players to utilise it."

In other words, the two jobs second, the manager/coach's assessment of players' abilities and intelligence is even more



Scotland look shaky fore and aft

By KEVIN McCarra

AN INTERNATIONAL football match is supposed to serve as a process of elimination, but Scotland's 2-0 defeat Denmark on Wednesday did not so much whittle down the options of Craig Brown, the manager, as reduce them to matchwood. Although the margin by which his team lost was not traumatic, the ease with which Denmark acquired it, inside the opening 27 minutes, was distressing.

Brown is left to wonder just who he can count upon, for, in Copenhagen, he fielded a team of seasoned players, whose know-how has, in the past, stifled exuberant opponents. That trait completely unished at the Parken

Stadium. Instead of suffering the attentions of smothering markers, the Laudrup broth-

ers breathed easily in the open spaces that they found so readily. Their moments of produced chagrin trickery among defenders, but, where the goals were concerned, the degree of artifice was not great. The elementary mistakes that created the openings had not been anticipated. even if Calderwood and McLaren, members of Brown's customary three-man

all, Boyd and McKimmie, their replace-ments, have 70 caps between them. Yet they and Hendry. who was hampered by the heavy strapping on a damaged ankle, never seemed clear about the positions that to one another.

Their absence of rapport alarmed Brown, since his team will need all the hardi- a matter of urgency and

ness that it can muster come the European championship. The manager cannot even be sure of reverting to an

established line-up, for nobody knows how long Calderwood will need to recover and it can only be hoped that the knee surgery that McLaren is to undergo after the Tennents Scottish Cup final will prove trivial. Whoever is available, Scot-

defence, were missing through land will have to ensure that they can provide protection to their own goal. While the Laudrups are superb footballers, Denmark, despite being the European champions, do have a handful of nondescripts performers. Yet it was all too easy for them.

In part, their progress went were experimenting. discovery of an effective partnership in attack is becoming

Brown hoped that the forwards might have more opportunities to shine if play was carried to Denmark.

Spencer did well enough, even if he was sluggish when given the opportunity to shoot. The technique that he showed with his lay-offs suggested that some as yet unidentified partner could make good use of such service. In Copenhagen, though, Gallacher did not seem suited to the role of central attacker. Brown may well be left to trust in Scott Booth, the Aberdeen forward, who has missed half the season with a groin injury.

Next Thursday, Brown names his party for a trip to the United States and those same men will form the squad for the European championship. The attempt to conjure up solidity from crumbling resources may be the most daunting project of his career. IN BRIEF

Eastbourne provides Graf's final preparation

STEFFI GRAF, 26, the Wimbledon tennis champion and world No I, will break with her normal practice of resting during the week before Wimbledon by taking part in the Direct Line International championships at Eastbourne from June 18 to 22. She will be ioined at the event by Mary Pierce, the winner of the Australian Open last year.

Eastbourne will boast its best entry for years, with Jana Novoma and Conchita Martinez, the 1994 Wimbledon champion, also appearing.

Greg Rusedski, of Great Britain, the defending champion, was unexpectedly beaten by Martin Dam, of the Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-7, 7-5 in the quarter-finals of the Korean Cup in Seoul yesterday.

Regan title bid

Boxing: Robbie Regan, of Wales, has moved up from flyweight to bantamweight to challenge for the World Boxing Organisation title held by Daniel Jiminez, of Puerto Rico, at Sophia Gardens, Cardiff, tonight. The powerful Jiminez has already beaten Duke McKenzie, Drew Docherty and Alfred Kotey in British rings.

Beadsworth out

Sailing: Andy Beadsworth, of Great Britain, saw his hopes of a semi-final berth today at the Soling match-racing competition of the French Olympic Classes Regatta at Hyères, dashed when he lost a tiebreaking race to Jochen Shumann, of Germany.

Johnson's debut

Squash: Paul Johnson, 23, the England No 6, will make his debut for England in the European team championships in Amsterdam next month. Del Harris, the England No I, is injured.

Simple for seeds

Real tennis: Penny Lumley, Sue Haswell and Alex Garof the British Land national Hayling Island.



By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT In the refresher last week, we looked at the subject of overcalling and saw how it was more important to have good distribution than good high-card strength. This is also reflected in how you should respond when partner overcalls. If you have a good fit, by all means jump around enthusiastically. If, on the other hand, you have good values with no fit, you should proceed with

What would you bid on the following hands after your left-hand opponent opens One Club and partner overcalls One Spade? (i) ± Q985 (ii) ± 54 **▼** K64 **♥** 93 ♦ A9732

♣ Q6 (i) Three Spades. You have an excellent fit for spades. Even if you go down in Three Spades, you may have stopped your opponents getting together in hearts. Jump support does not show any more than this after an overcall.

(ii) 1 NT. If partner had opened One Spade you would have bid at least 2 NT, but this situation is different. Partner's overcall has removed a fair amount of the opponents' bidding spade and, as we saw last week, his overcall could be on as little as **★KQ1096** ♥8 ◆Q763 ♠764

A 1 NT response to an overcall shows about 11-12 points. What would you bid on the same hands after your left-hand opponent opens One Diamond and partner overcalls One

(i) Pass. If partner had opened One Heart, you would have responded One Spade, but that is not necessary here. If he has a light overcall, you do not want to go any higher, and you will not miss a game even opposite a maximum overcall. (ii) Two Diamonds. Two Hearts is out as you would raise him on a great deal less than this. We saw in the answer to (a)(i) that a jump raise would show more than this in terms of distribution and less in high cards. The answer is to cue-bid the opponent's suit (the "unassuming cue-bid") to show about 10-12 points with some support for partner. If he is minimum, he will rebid a

simple Two Hearts and you can pass. If he has as much as opening-bid values, he will bid more enthusiastically, so you will not miss a good game. For comprehensive coverage of this subject, try Step-by-Step

Overcalls by Sally Brock (BT Batsford £8.99). ☐ EU championships: The Great Britain mixed and junior teams are still in medal positions with one day to go. The open team also has a chance of a top-three finish. Standings: Open: 1, Sweden 166; 2, Italy 157; 3, Germany 157; Great Britain 137. Women: 1, Austria 172; 2. Belgium 145; 3, France 143; 8, Great Britain 109. Junior: 1, Denmark 157; 2, Italy

146; 3. Great Britain 140. Mixed: I, Great Britain 139; 2, France ☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport

and in the Weekend section on Saturday. WORD WATCHING By Philip Howard DEGAUSS **ACRIDIAN**

a. From Arcadia b. A flowering creeper c. A hopper GLOIRE DE DIJON a. A powerful mustard

b. A fast train

c. A yellow rose

a. To protect against mines b. A mountain scree c. To eviscerate **CHAMISO** a. A man's chemise b. A Mexican hat dance c. A dense shrub

Answers on page 46



BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Kramnik victory

Vladimir Kramnik, from Russia, has clinched victory in the \$100,000 Melody Amber tournament in Monaco which combined blindfold games with rapid chess, Kramnik made a steady score in the rapid games but excelled at the blindfold variety. Final scores were as follows:

Kramnik 16: Anand 15: Ivanchuk 142; Kamsky 12; Karpov, Lautier and Shirov 112; Piket and Polgar II; Nikolic 812; Ljubojevic 5; Xie In an extremely strong field.

the performances of Anatoly Karpov and Gata Kamsky, the contenders for the Fide (world chess federation) championship, were modest. In this game, from the blindfold section, Kramnik disposes of Kamsky after

him

īn an

White: Gata Kamsky Black: Vladimir Kramnik Melody Amber, Monaco April 1996

Sicilian Defence

outplaying

1	е4	· c5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	d4	CXCI4
4	Nxd4	Nf6
5	Nc3	d6
6	Bg5	e 6
7	Cd2	26
В	0-0-0	h6
9	Be3	Nxd4
10	Bxd4	b5
11	Oe3	Bd7
12	වේ	chte5
13	Oxe5	Qb8
14	Chtb8+	Pxb8
15	Bxf6	gpd6
16	Ne4	Bc6
47	A6-12-	Ke7

19 13 Rg5 Kb1 Re3 Rg8 Re1 Bxe3 25 Pxe3 Kc2 Kf6 Rh3 Kd1 Ke2 Bd7 Rhi **B**15 32 Rd8 Kd1 33 Kc2 34 fxe4 Bxe4 a5 ьз Rc8-CXD4 8d4+ Kb2 Kb1 Kci Rai + Ra2+ Kd2 Be3+ Kc1 Rd1+ Rc1+ Bd4+ Be5

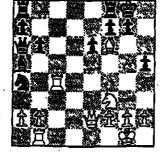
Diagram of final position

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend

WINING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to move. This is a variation from the game Alekhine - Sterk, Budapest, 1921. The key is the positioning of the queens. A good positioning of the queens, a good ractical player would quickly spot the idea 1, Bxg7 Kxg?; 2, Rg4+ attempting to make use of this, but, after 2...hxg4l 3, Qxa6 gxf3, Black has plenty of material for the queen. Can you spot a preferable way to exploit





http://www.sky.co.uk

Scatter my ashes on right side of the track

mind that what goes on does not happen for the benefit of the people who are there. It is a service; spectators, while given access, are irrelevant to the overall purpose of the exercise. We are writing of Monmore BAGS.

Oxo is the in-drink, mushy peas cost 35p a cup, with free vinegar available to provide bite. Chips 50p: I thought I had missed the turnstile and got in for free but there is no turnstile; no race cards either — an A4 sheet gives the names, trap numbers and weights of the dogs: Mid Tip Wizard, Hairpin Bend, Won-bourne Hooley and Movealong Major, which may not belong to the chairman of

fact belong to anyone. Monmore BAGS then: BAGS stands for Bookmakers Afternoon Greyhound Service. a wheeze whereby betting shops, which might experience you the track's whereabouts.

the local Tories, may not in

mouth's 3.15 and the 3.25 from Beverley, can screen an event on which their clientele could wager: the 3.21 from Monmore or Oxford or Crayford, Cardiff or Bristol, which are other BAGS meetings.

the totem pole, giving priority to all other events. A voice says: "The dogs are going into the traps," magic words for those of us to whom a betting shop is an important aspect of life, and then, when the bookmakers' satellite television service that beams contests into 11,000 betting shops in the United Kingdom realises that a horse race is delayed, there is a further announcement

These are the low men on

"Three minutes to the off." The dogs are given a little walk. There are, in this fair land of ours, many sporting citizens who doubt the existence of

Monmore; few would put their

hands on their hearts and give

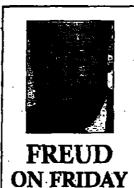
t is important to bear in a lull in trade between Yar- As with the Indian rope trick. you do not meet anyone with first-hand experience of Monmore, though there are those who say they know someone who has been. I

Train to Wolverhampton, asked a taxi driver in the station forecourt if he knew Monmore.

"Dogs?" "Yes. Do you take many people there?"

You're the first, ever. Monmore Green lies quietly off a side street, doing nobody any harm, five minutes drive from the station. It is what knowledgeable greyhound men describe as a good galloping track. For the rest of us, it is a sanded oval of about 400 metres with an outside hare.

The track receives £5,000 a meeting to stimulate business in betting parlours; all is well run and straight; every dog's earmark is checked to ensure



each one has a urine test to deter foul play. There are four bookmakers to create a market ... just not many spectators.

An actors' Equity ruling determined that players did not have to appear on stage unless they were outnumbered by the audience. If the dogs d struck a similar deal, it would have been touch and go whether the meeting to which I went would have happened.

hounds. We were 93 ... not counting the women behind the tea counter, the barman. the manager, the vet and the judge, the kennel maids, the tote operators and the SIS cameraman; the commentary comes from somewhere else in England given by a man

track. I sat in a glass-fronted terrace restaurant at a ledge, where one might have hoped for a table; next to me was a family: granny, son and granddaughter with Thermos flasks, food, The Sporting Life and toys for the child.

watching the pictures from the

"Do you come here very often?" I ask granny, who was glaring at me. "Every meeting," she said, "and we sit where you are

I move: she smiles and offers me a cheese sandwich wrapped in four or five layers

of cling film, possibly to put off

On the far side of the course is a large hoarding bearing the message: "Advertise your business here."

A small blue tractor harrows the track after each race: I think I would like my ashes to be scattered here.

Beneath the stands, there is a betting shop with television screens; if you should feel that Monmore does not give full rein to your eagerness, you can have bets at the other places from which SIS beams Quite a lot of people - well.

about eight — stayed in the betting shop throughout, even watching the action that they could have seen live by taking half a dozen steps to the terrace. A tuna fish butty, a cup of mushy peas and a 50p forecast Two Dog to beat Four Dog," would be their version of the Omar Khayyam's concept of bliss.

The legacy of Auschwitz

RADIO 1

FM Starso, 4.00mm Cive Warren 6.30 Chris Evans 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Lisa ("Anson, incl. at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Gootlier, incl. at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat 7.00 Essential Selection 10.00 One to the Jungle 1.00mm Radio 1 Rep Show 3.00 Annie Nightingale

RADIO 2

PM Stereo 6.00am Martin Kelner 7.30 Sarah Kennedy 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30 Judi Spiers 3.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dung 7.00 For Love

B.00em Morring Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme, and 6.55, 7.55 racing preview 8.35 The Magazine, with Diana Madill, and Video Review, Euronews and at 11.80 Science News 12.00 Middley with Mart, and at 12.34pm Moneycheck; and at 1.15 Enterteinment News 2.05 Ruscoe on Five, and at 3.45 Entertainment News; 3.85 and 3.40 Racing from Sandown Park 4.80 John Hondride Nationwood 7.20 Fideby Scott

invardale Nationwide 7.20 Friday Sport. A preview of tomorow's Rugby League Challenge Cup Final 9.36 Sports Shop

challenge Cup Final 9.36 Sports Shop A new senes with Adrien Goldberg examining the consumer side of sport 10.05 Paper Talk. Another new senes, this time with Biden Alexander and Phil Murphy exploring the British press 11.00 Night Edna 12.05mm. After Hours 2.05 Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6,30mm The Breaklast Show with Paul Ross 10.00 Scott Chisholm 1,80pm Arsta Raeburn 3,90 Tommy Boyd 5,00-Peter Desley 7,00 Sport 10,00 Mike Alien 1,00mm Mike Dictor

I vividly recall - who could ever forget them - Anita Laster-Wallfisch's talks on Radio 3 about her experiences in Auschwitz and Wallfisch's talks on Radio 3 about her experiences in Auschwar and Belsen. The series' generic title was laberit the Truth. In 50 Years Later, she defines that inheritance. Instead of reprising harrowing personal memories, she uses them to explain what lessons they raught her and, by implication, what we should learn from them cannot from her lips, her plea for us not to poison our minds with Coming from her lips, her plea for us not to poison our minds with charted is not remotely platitudinous. Nor does it sound simplified when she suggests that, to help cure the world's ills, everyone should spend six months of the year being what she was — a displaced person.

Beyond Reasonable Doubt. Radio 4 (FM), 10.000am.

Recommendable even at half an hour, this programme shricks a Recommendable even at half an hour, this programme surress and another 30 minutes. The case of Lock Ah Tam was highly completed by the Merseyside Chinese community that he often helped, a kindly man and loving husband, he nonetheless short dead his wife and two daughters. No apparent motive. No manifed explanation except the possibility that an earlier attack on two manifest have caused epiteptic automatism. Rib Davis's reconstruction of the case, with Robert Kee narrating and Denys Hawthorne, as that celebrated worker of courtroom miracles Marshall Hall, leaves state. celebrated worker of courtroom miracles Marshall Hall, leaves done

Young squire with his sights set on Atlanta conquest

WHEN Richard Faulds shoots for Great Britain at the Olympic Games this summer. only the elders of a Hampshire village will know how strongly local tradition is being upheld. Faulds lives in Longparish, which numbers the former cricket correspondent of The Times among its present distinguished residents, but which was once home to Colonel Peter Hawker, an outstanding soldier, a prolific writer and one of the most brilliant shots of his day.

Hawker fought with distinction under Wellington in the Peninsular War and, in 1814, published his Instructions to Young Sportsmen, which is still regarded as an essential manual for shooters. Even the redoubtable colonel might, however, have been surprised by Faulds's astonishing progress to the top of his sport at the tender age of 19.

From the moment, nine years ago, that he first picked up a gun. Faulds has needed precious little instruction. He hit 17 out of 25 clays in his first lesson, was junior world champion at 16, successfully defending the title twice. As a funior, he was twice runner up for the senior title. The week before his first junior world championships, his school PE report announced that his hand-to-eye co-ordination was very poor. So poor that he finished third, aged 14.

In one sense, the PE teacher was right. Faulds cannot hit a golf ball to save his life, but the fact that, as a child, the sight in his left eye was so bad that it

Andrew Longmore meets a British marksman with Olympic ambition

echoing an historic call to arms

was thought that he may need glasses, makes his prodigious talent all the more remarkable. He had to do special dotto-dot exercises to strengthen that eye. He now shoots lefthanded, left eye dominant.

Today, Faulds competes in the double trap shooting event in the World Cup in Atlanta, a dress rehearsal for the summer. It is not his preferred

In double trap, two clays Ilem in radius — "birds" in the trade -- are launched from a trench 17 yards in front of the shooters and travel in a shallow 55-metre arc, at about 60mph, three metres off the ground away from the line of shooters. Imagine trying to hit two upturned spinning saucers side-on from 40 yards. You have to hit the first on the rise, the second at the apex of its flight. There is a split second between firing the two shots and, if the first misses, the second will too. The world record is 192 out of 200.

Faulds's best is 188. "It's a test of concentration as much as skill." Faulds said. "Anyone could go up there, shoot five pairs and get ten out of ten, but it's the last five or ten pairs which count. You can get very tired, relax a little because it's getting near the end and you miss. It's amazing how many people miss the

very last pair." An errant butterfly, a wayward fly, a fleck of pollen, the slightest distraction can disrupt the rhythm of a shooter.

Gamesmanship is not unknown. One trick is to eject a cartridge onto the floor just as the man at the next station is about to fire, the shooting equivalent of the Ballesteros cough in golf.

It would take more than the click of a cartridge, one suspects, to upset the young Englishman's equilibrium. He has the ideal temperament for a sport that requires the ultimate control of emotion and muscle. He thrives on pressure and regards the mild scolding of his doting mother as the height of anger. Shooting is his passion. He has not missed a Sunday shoot for six

When he was involved in a

car crash last year, his first instinct was not to check his own wellbeing or that of the the car — the former unscathed, the latter a write-off - but to find whether his gun was damaged. It was, A box of cartridges had smashed the stock and Faulds was inconsolable until a replacement was made. The gun is a Spanish-made Kemen weighing 84lb with a 32in barrel, the maximum length allowed. The stock has been bent a fraction of an inch out of true to fit snugly into Faulds's shoulder, the original orange

sighter Tippex-ed white.
Tall, well-built, fresh faced with curling fair hair, dressed in sensible sweater, checked

FROM MEL WEBB



Caught in a trap: Faulds in practice at his parents' farm in Hampshire

shirt and corduroy trousers, Faulds looks every inch the young squire. His father, Bruce, is a farmer, who had a private double trap built for Richard (the nearest one was in Cheltenham); his mother, Sue, provides a running commentary on her son's exploits

Fabrice Tarnaud, Diego

"don't forget you finished third in the Europeans, dear" - but neither will be in Atlanta this summer. Richard has forbidden it.

His goal for the Olympics is to qualify for the final-six shoot-out. From there, he reckons, anything is possible -

his 7th, and three-putting the

Those slips apart, it was an

unrelieved story of sound

driving, accurate irons and

confident putting. His seven

birdies showed clearly that a

potentially damaging experi-

ence the day before had had

Baker came into the tourna-

ment having played the pro-

am on Wednesday with two

journalists — one female and

Spanish, the other English,

male, and, shall we say,

4th, both for bogeys.

no effect on him.

even a gold for Longparish. It is too much to expect. There is plenty of time yet. The world champion last year was 48. "I hope to be still blazing away in 50 years' time," Faulds said. "I don't want to do anything else." The colonel would applaud the instinct.

off 12, caused a few evebrows

to be raised when he unfurled

an immaculate technique and

dispatched his first drive

more than 200 yards down the

on you," Baker said with a

small but malicious grin, rel-

ishing a rare chance to get his

retaliation in first on a mem-

"Sure has," the diminutive

scribbler replied. "Still, it

makes a change to be playing

with somebody smaller than

report that, over the 18 holes,

he managed to preserve the honour of British golfing

punditry and emerge with

dignity intact - just.

ber of the Fourth Estate.

"That's put a bit of pressure

middle of the fairway.

C major, U 915): 190er (Battalia a 10 in D), Muliet (Cariton-Sortie); Falla (The Three-Comered Het, Part 2) Morning Collection with (Four Norwegian Dances); Beethoven (Pano Concerto No 5 in E flat, Emperor) Musical Encounters, with

Stephanie Hughes, Bernstein an Penalorie (America, West Side Story) 10.05 Artists of the Week: The Sixteen under Harry Christophers. Bach (Cantata No 147: Herz un Mund und Tat und Leben); Variations): Lili Boulanger (Pie Jesu); Haydin (The Seven Last Words of Our Sevious on the Cross, 1st myt); Weilt (Seven Deadly Sins)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Szymanowski, Mazurkas, Op 50 Nos 1, 2 and 4; String Quartet No 2: Mazurka On 62

No 1 1.00pm Bristol Lunchtime Concert: Stravinsky Plus Chris de Souza introduces another of the series of concerts recorded at St Georges, Branden Hill uring chamber music by Schumann (Adagio and allegro in A flat); Stravinsky (Elegy for solo viola); Shostakovich (Viola Sonata,

Op 147)
2.00 Schools Let's Make a Story 2.15 Music Box 2.30 Dance Workshop 2.50 Poetry Comer

9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island Discs. Author Hanif Kureishi talks to Sue Lawley (r) 9.45 Feedback with Chris Dunkley

10.00-10.30 News; Beyond Reasonable Doubt (FM

10.00-10.30 News; Beyond
Reasonable Doubt (FM
only). See Choice (6/6)
10.00 An Act of Worship (LW only)
10.15 This Sceptr'd Isle (LW only)
10.30 Woman's Hour. Novelist
Stevie Davies talks to
Shahnaz Pakrayan
11.30 The Natural History
Programma

Programme 12.00 News; You and Yours 12.25pm The Food Programme

Clarke 1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55

12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One with Nick

Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; The Classic Serial:
The Constant Nymph by

Margaret Kennedy, dramatised by Louise Paige (2/2) (r)

(2/2) (f)
3.00 News, The Afternoon Shift
4.00 News 4.05 Kaledoocope.
Tim Markow considers the
history of British art
4.45 Short Story: My Mother, My
Father and Me, by Kate
Pullinger Read by Michelle
Collins

Collins 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast

5.55 Weather
6.00 Stx O'Clock News
6.30 Going Places with David
Stafford

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

All times in BST. 5.00em Nevertielly, 5.30 Europe Today 5.45 Folk Flotage 6.00 Neves 6.30 Europe Today 5.45 Folk Flotage 6.00 Neves 6.30 Europe Today 5.45 Words and Music 6.50 The Institute Guide 7.00 News 7.15 The World Today 7.30 Blues World 9.00 Neves 8.15 February 9.45 Soundbys 10.00 News 10.05 Business 10.15 Focus on Fatth 10.45 Sport 11.00 News 11.30 BBC English 11.45 Off the Shelf 12.00 News 12.30ps Merician 1.00 News 13.30 Science in Action 2.00 Newshour 3.90 News 3.05 man 1.15 Crimen Incom 3.00 News 3.05
Action 2.00 Newshour 3.00 News 3.05
Outlook 3.30 Multirack: Attemptive 4.00
News 4.05 Sport 4.15 BBC English 4.00
News an German 5.00 Europe Today
5.30 Business 5.45 Britain Today 6.00
News 6.10 World Today 6.25 Spottings
See All Section 7.10 Newshight 5.30 News in German 7.00 Newaddill. 7.30 Focus on Fath 8.00 News 2.50 News 9.01 Outlook 9.25 Words of Fail News 9.07 Cutook 9.25 Weres to year.
9.30 Multirack: Allarmetive 10.06 News:
10.05 Business 10.15 Britain Today:
10.30 People and Politics 11.00 Hunti
11.30 World Today: 11.45 Sport. 12.00
News 12.10 Spotlight 12.15 The Imider's Guide 12.25 Book Choice: 12.36
Multirack: 415cmatter 1.00 News: 12.36 Multitrack Alternative 1.00 News 1.30 Seven Days 1.45 Britain Today 2,00 News 2.36 Outlook 2.55 Words of Pain 3.00 News 3.30 Meridian 4.00 Plans 4.15 Sport 4.30 The Vintage Charles Show

WORLD SERVICE

CLASSIC FM 4.00m Merk Größer 8.00 hills Floor 9.90 Herry Kally 12.00 Sulfaren Smore 2.00pm Corcurs 3.60 Justic Cirk 6.00 Newsyld 5.35 Synthe

6.00am Russ 'n' Jone 2.08 Egyer Sterner 12.00 Gesfath Dene Kalons Nicley Home 7.38 Past Cope 12.03 Mark Forrest 2.09 Howard Past 2.00

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am On Air. Presented by Andrew MacGregor, Vivaldi (Violin Concerto in D. Op 7 No 12): Basher (Symphony No 1): Schubert (Allegretto in C menor, D 915): Biber (Partellin at 10): Dit Makes

exploring the vast BBC collection of recordings of Bach's keyboard music. emessed over the last 80

Tommy Pearson. Today he is joined by the jazz saxophonis

Shoslakovich (Festive Overture); Grainger (Bingg 7.30 The BBC National

Orchestra of Wales, with Dong-Suk Kang, violin, under Tadaski Otaka. Live from the Brangwyn Hall in Swansea. Dvorak (Carnival Overture): Sibelius (Violin Concerto in D minor) 8.20 50 Years Later. See Choice 8.40 Smetana (From Bohamia's Wood and Fields; Vitava; Sarka, Ma vlast); Enescu (Romanian

Birtwhistle (Slow Frieze; Verses for Ensemble)

Verses for ensentions)
12.00-1.00am Composer of the
Week: Debussy. Includes,
Juex, 12 etudes pour plano'
(Nos 4-7), Violin Sonata (r)

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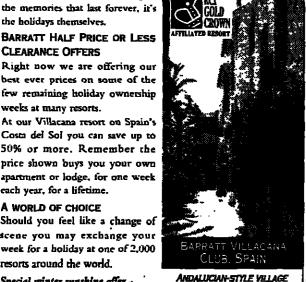


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RCI WHITE BAND	WAS	Now	WHICH IS SPACIOUS
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2 BED SLEEPS 6			B.A.S., owner since
3 BED SLEEPS 8			Phone now and we wi
RCI BLUE BAND	WAS	Now	pleased to answer any
STUDIO SLEEPS 2	£2,750	£950	tions that you may have :

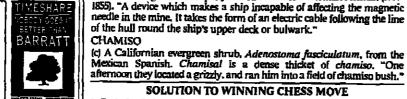
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TITE HOLLONIS	Control and the second by the Control of the Contro
NEVER END	Answers from page 45
CANNOT FAULT	ACRIDIAN (c) Of or pertaining to an orthopterous insect of the family Acridiidae.
ACCOMMODATION	comprising certain locusts and grasshoppers. From the Greek akris.
H IS SPACIOUS AND	I divide a located T C Flight translation of Ct John Common Anabasia 1020.
ETTOD OUT 1	GLOIPE DE DUON

(c) A yellow hybrid tea-rose, "the glory of Dijon". D. H. Lawrence, Lady Chatterley's Lover, 1928: "She still lay naked and faintly golden like a Gloire de Dijon rose in the bed." DEGAUSS



Borrego and Ross McFarlane on 66, six under par, with IT WAS only a little more Baker one of four players a than a week ago that Peter shot behind. Yet there was Baker admitted that, in spite also more than the odd catastrophe, including the minor of his best efforts, his consid-

(a) To protect a ship against magnetic mines by encircling it with an

electrically charged cable (called the degaussing belt or girdle), so as to

demagnetise it. Also, in extended use, to remove unwanted magnetism

from, to demagnetise. An eponym of K. F. Gauss a German scientist (1777-

1855). "A device which makes a ship incapable of affecting the magnetic

(c) A Californian evergreen shrub, Adenostoma fasciculatum, from the Mexican Spanish. Chamisal is a dense thicket of chamiso. "One afternoon they located a grizzly, and ran him into a field of chamiso bush."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

I. Rg4! Qxe2; 2, Rxg7+ Kh8; 3. Ng5! and Black is defenceless against 4.

erable golfing talent had been largely unfulfilled, and that, at the age of 28, he was intent on doing something about it. Yesterday, he did, producing a round that put him in a challenging position in the Turespaña Masters.
One of the tests of a great

golf course is that it should be a stern challenge even in perfect conditions, and in this respect the glorious links of El Saler passed its first-round test with flying colours. Yes, there were low scores:

the lead was shared by

but not totally unexpected one of Severiano Ballesteros shooting a humble 76 to be ten from the course. in a troubled mind.

shots off the pace and facing yet another weekend away Granted, his golf is in tatters, yet the feeling persists that his main problem exists El Saler rewards good golf,

but is unremittingly cruel to anything less and, in that respect, Baker could be satisfied with his work. He made only two obvious errors, missing the fairway on the 16th,

vertically challenged - plus an 11-year-old Spanish schoolboy by the name of Carlos del Moral. No, that is not a misprint — he is, repeat, 11. Dei Moral, who won the

Belated show of talent lifts Baker

Spanish championship for his age-group last year and plays

kick-off 7.90 unless stated

Second division

Endsleigh Insurance League

Scores, page 42 FOOTBALL.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Hyde United v Droylsden.
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: Second division: Burnley v Aston Villa (7,15).
BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF INELAND: Premier division (7 45) Bohemiens v Shamrook; Droghede v Sigo, St Palnck's Alfr v Shelbourne. JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEA-GUE: Premier division: Haverhill Felbstowe Port and Town. Passaywa Port and Town.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Kent President
Shiekt: Semi-final: North Kent v Döver (at
Cobdown, 8 15) London Dawar Cup:
Final: Woodside v Richard Challoner (at
Macmillan Stadium, 8.30).

Benson And Hedges Cup 11 0, 50 overs THE PARKS: British Universities v.Kent CHESTERFIELD: Derbyshire v Durham BRISTOL: Gloucestershire v Sussex SOUTHAMPTON: Hampshire v Ireland

OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Minor Counties LORD'S: Middlesex v Somerset EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v

Leicestershire WORCESTER: Worcestershire v

HEADINGLEY: Yorkshire v RUGBY UNION First division

Neath v Llanelli (7.30) OTHER SPORT BOXING: World Boxing Organisation bantemwelght championahip: Robbie Regan (Wales) v Daniel Jimmez (Puerto Rico, holder) (Cerdiff)

SNOOKER: Embassy world champs (Crucible Theeste, Shelfield). SPEEDWAY (7:30): Premier League: Belle Vue v Landon. Speedway Star Cup: First round, first leg: Cutord v Swindon. Second round, first leg: Pelesborough v Coven-

3.00 The Bach Archive. A new series with Nicholes Anderson

5.09 The Music Mechine, with

5.15 in Tune, with Andrew Green Includes, Ravel (Tzigane); Shoetakovich (Festive

Rhapsoy No 1 in A)

9.40 Epics of Everyday Life.

Susan Richards's account of life during the break up of the Soviet Union. Read by Elaine Clayton (44)

Claston (4/4)

10.00 Here and Now. Robert

Zeigler introduces a concert,
focusing on the music and life
of Harrison Birtwhistle,
recorded at the Secret
Theatres Festival in London.
Includes Birtwhistle (Rifuel
Fragment); Simon Holt
(Daedatus Remembers);
Birtwhistle (Slow Frieze)

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW only) 6.00 News Briefing: Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today ind 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.43 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Desart Island

7.20 Pick of the Week 8.05 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby chairs a topical debate in Stockon-on-Tees with Lord Hoime of Cheltenham, the Liberal Democrats' Spokesperson on Northern Ireland; Genista Mointosh, executive director of the Royal National Theatre; Estelle Morris, MP, a member of Labour's education team; and Steven Norris, MP. and steven Norris, MP undersecretery of state for the Department of Transport

8.50 Points of Departure. Charles Wheeler talks about his coverage of the 1956 Hungarian Uprising as a producer for the BBC's Panorama (8/6) (r)

9.15 Letter from America, by Alistair Cooke

For more comprehensive

sings of sachine and cable annels, see the Vision sap-ant, published Saturday

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5.75 **5.36**

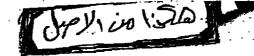
Trans.

9.15 Letter from America, by Alistair Cooke 9.30 Kaleldoscope Featurer Striking image. An exploration of the cultural influence of the game of footbell (f) 9.50 Weather. 10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustic 10.45 Book at Bedtime: A

Book at Bectume: A Shropshire Lad, by A.E. Houseman. Detak Jacobi-reads the final instalment in this collection of poems (5/5)
11.00 Week Ending, Sally Grace. Toby Longworth and the team take a salirical look at the week's news 11.25 Tea Junction with Patrick

11.45 Today in Parliament
12.00 News 12.27am Weather
12.30 The Late Book:
Lipstick on the Host by
Aiden Mathews Read by
Pauline McLynn (5/7) 12.48
Shipping Forecast 1 00.8

FREQUENCY GIJIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE MW 893, 909. WORLD SERVICE MW 646; LW 198; MW 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO UK MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, lan Hughes, Rosenary



Bang to rights, or the victim of noises off?

zzza! Could you keep that noise in mind for the next few minutes? According to one who literally had first-hand experience, it is the noise that the Unabomber's pipe-bombs make when they go off. For three people it was the last sound they heard on earth, for 23 others it marked the beginning of months, even years, of pain, suffering and stress. Zzzat went the bomb and bang went a young pilot's chance of playing the guitar again, let alone realising his ambition of flying to the Moon. He

The state of the s

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was one of the lucky ones. At times during last night's grimly fascinating Witness: Unabomber (Channel 4) it was difficult to concentrate on things that went zzzzat at all times of the day and night. There was so much other "weird stuff" going on, not least of which was the advancement of an obscene but quite credible prediction - that the Unabomber will become an Amerwho share his distaste for a society dominated by technology.

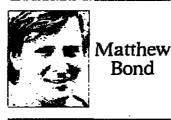
A few years ago the Una-bomber's story would have been an all-American affair. But now, primed as we have been by The X Files and Twin Peaks, we know almost as much about this sort of thing as our American cousins. So it came as no surprise when what the story came down to was that there was something nasty in the woods of Montana.

According to the FBI, that something nasty is Theodore Kaczynski loner, academic drop-out and alleged Unabomber, I say alleged out of habit. Americans have never been great believers in the law of sub judice and, with the Atlantic Ocean bolstering their confidence, the makers of the programme followed their lead. The Feds had got their man.

And what a man, As Gar Smith, an environmentalist with a well-

the man whose campaign of postal terror had lasted 17 years turned out to be straight from central custing: "The hair was perfect, the make-up was perfect -- he was Hollywood made-to-order for the mad scientist, the perfect image of a social malcontent." You see, you're forgetting already. 7.722at.

oanna Head, director, and Anne Webber, producer, did an excellent job of telling the Unabomber's story to an audience whose knowledge probably begins photolit of a cowled head, the face hidden by a pair of aviator songlasses, In fact, as one of the programme's rare lighter moments revealed, Kaczynski favoured a straw hat and flip-ups for everyday wear around his home town of Lincoln. Zzzzat. Victims, investigators, criminal psychologists - they all made REVIEW



their contribution, but it was the thoughts of Kirkpatrick Sale that suggested the programme was right in believing that the Unahomber's story may begin with Kaczynski's arrest rather than end. Sale is a neo-Luddite, one of a growing band of Americans never happier than when they are taking a sledgehammer to a computer screen. TWe don't ap-prove of his means, they are quite irrational, quite mad. But his core ends . . . well, they make a lot of sense." Scary, very scary.

But nothing like as scary as "Bianga" and her long-awaited fashion show in EastEnders (BBCI). As the great day dawned, Ricky, perhaps for the first time in his unhappy life, spoke for us all: "I'll be glad when all this is over." Bianga, of course, was loving every minute, despite the shrill concern that she was "working with ama'eurs".

The show was eventually a great success, spurring the Albert Square business community to new heights of optimism. Everybody, it seems, is going into business - Bianga is going into business ("I want 100 per cent the next time"), Gilda and Sanjay are going into extra business, Ian is buying yet another business... even Nigel is contemplating forsaking the life of potman at the

Conservative Party's "good news" paper will not lack for material.

1001.50

ravely and possibly without B precedent, the producers went for two comic storylines in one episode, with the lightfingered Sarah falling not into the grubby mitts of a lecherous shop manager, as we all believed, but the squeaky-clean hands of a couple of evangelical Christians. "Jesus loves you. Sarah." And just to prove it a little miracle was arranged - fierce father Ted never discovered she had slipped out of the house. To a girl at a difficult age, this was right up there with

Dirty Den rising again. The misery quotient was, as ever, maintained by Pauline ("this has been the worst six months of my life" - hmm, tough call), who is now off to Jersey with Willie and a suitcase full of each, and by Carol Queen Vic for a flirtation with free and Alan, still locked in the row

heading for disaster. Their scenes may have been short of jokes but Lindsey Coulson and Howard Antony took the acting honours.

The one positive thing about a Thursday night that includes Secrets of the Paranormal and Hollywood Pets is that Ellington iITV) almost looks good in comparison. Almost but not quite. Last night's was as disappointing as those that preceded it - flawed by pitiful humour (with the exception of a nice visual gag about mobile phones), worful characterisation and a determination to occupy the moral high ground. regardless of the cost to credibility. Two unimaginative plots concerned footballer managers paying "bungs" and athletes taking steroids, "It's cheating, it's wrong," shouted Ellington at regular intervals. It's unbelievable.

Lynne Truss is on holiday

FBBC1 6.00am Business Breakfast (10626) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceelax) (41997)

9.00 Breakfast News Extra (Ceetax) 9.20 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (s) (7602930)

9.45 Kilrov (6) (1763423) 10.30 Good Morning (s) (84133) 12.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (6461133) 12.05pm World Championship Snooker (s)

(8249423) 12.35 Going for Gold Henry Kelly hosts the general knowledge quiz (s) (3390881) 1.00 News (Ceetax) and weather (44084) 1.30 Regional News and weather (94049978) 1.40 Neighbours (Ceelax) (s) (44141442) 2.00 Moon over Miami (Ceeiax) (s)

2.50 Today's Gourmet (s) (6664571) 3.15 Secret Life of Toys (r) (s) (8398152)

3.30 Playdays (r) (s) (1280336) 3.50 Monster Cafe (r) (s) (8497171) 4.05 Casper Classics (r) (s) (5437492) 4.10 Little Mouse on the Prairie (Ceelar) (s) (2470423) 4.35 Clarissa Explains It Ali (r) (Ceetax) (9079133) 5.00 Newsround (Ceefax) (1582084) 5.10 Blue Peter (Ceelax) (s) (1788688

5.35 Neighbours (Ceelax) (s) (127862) 6.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (249) 6.30 Regional news magazines (201)

7.00 Wipeout. Paul Daniels hosts the game show. (Ceefax) WALES: 7.00-7.30 Don't 7.30 CHOICE Tomorrow's World. Science magazine (Ceetax) (s) (713) 8.00 HI-De-Hill After a secret visit to the camp,

Joe Maplin decides that Gladys should

be put in charge of the yellowcoats (r) (Ceefax) (1423) 8.30 A Question of Sport. David Coleman. Bill Beaumont and Ian Botham are joined by Jamie Redknapp, Lawrence Dallaglio, Richard Dunwoody and Nasser Hussain

(Ceelax) (s) (2030)

Party (Ceetax) (s) (805797) 9.05 News (Ceelax) and weather (437713) 9.35 999. Michael Buerk and Juliet Morns present more extraordinary true stories of heroic rescues, including a runaway river in the Caimgorms, and a safety crew which has to break its own rules to rescue a man overcome by fumes in an under

ground petrol tank. (Ceefax) (s) (636220) 10.30 FILM Blue Ice (1992) with Michael Caine, Sean Young and Ian Holm A iormer intelligence officer encounters an American ambassador's wife and is drawn into a plot involving murder, illegal arms and corruption Directed by Russell Mulcany (Ceefax) (s) (83445268)

12.10 FILM: Hiding Out (1988) with Jon Cryer, stockbroker is about to testify against a dangerous mobster when he discovers there is a contract out on his life. He skips town and heads for refuce in a suburb. in order to dodge his pursuers. Directed by Bob Giraldi (8120282) 1.40am Weather (5022282)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes The numbers next to each TV programm listing are Video PlusCode™ nambers, which asow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a videoPlus+" handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record, Videoplus+("), Pluscode (") and Video Programmer are trademarks of Country Development Let

6.00am Open University: Biology (7216978) 6.25 The Thric Estates (7228713) 6.50 Sassetti Chapel, Santa Trinita (8202355) 7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (4396978) 7.30 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (r) (Ceelax) (22862) 8.00 The Really Wild Show (Ceelax) (S) (1902084) 8.25 The

Little Polar Bear (r) (4629686) 8.30 William's Wish Wellingtons (i) (5) 8.40 The Record, Yesterday in Parliament (s)

9.05-2.00pm Daytime on Two Educational programmes, including

12.00 CHOICE English File: Death of a Salesman (93256) 12.30 Working Lunch presented by Adrian

2.00 The Little Polar Bear (r) (s) (73200220) 2.05 William's Wish Wellingtons (r) (s)

2.10 Open View A preview of Open University programmes (s) (73291572) 2.15 World Championship Snooker (5)

6.00 Shooting Stars (r) (Ceelar) (s) (591) **6.30 The Champions.** Fanlasy espionage senes (r) (Ceetax) (185423) 7.20 Watch Out. Wildlife news (s) (989171)

7.30 The Transatiantic Sessions. Including Davy Spillane, Karen Matheson and Iris Dement (Ceefax) (s) (355) N.I.: 7.30 Two

8.00 Top Gear Motorsport. Tilf Needell samples the joys of GT racing at Silverstone (Ceetax) (s) (9065)



Gardener Gav Search (8.30pm)

8.30 CHOICE Gardeners' World (Ceelax) (s) (8572) 9.00 World Champlonship Snooker (s)

10.00 Have I Got News for You. Comedy quiz hosted by Angus Deayton. Featuring celebrity contestants Ian Histop, Eddie tzzard and Janet Street-Porter (Ceefax)

10.30 Party Election Broadcast by the Green Party (Ceetax) (s) (796171) 10.35 Newsnight (Ceefax) (290862)

11.20 Fantasy Football League (s) (878249) WALES: 11.20 Welsh Lobby (878249) 11.50 Fantasy Football Leauge (489539) 12.20am This Life (1246060) 1.00 Weather (7300060) 1.05 World Championship Snocker (8849669) 2.05 Film: Happy We (171060)

11.50 This Life (r) (Ceelax) (s) (327775) 12,35am World Championship Snooker (s)

1.35 FILM: Happy We (1983) with Brasse Brannstrom. Two university triends meet 20 years on and compare notes about their lives Directed by Lasse Hallstrom edish with English subtitles) (880350)

CHOICE English File: Death of a Salesman BBC2, midday

Family recriminations intensity as Arthur Miller's Brooklyn antihero, played with pathetic dignity by Warren Mitchell, edges nearer to the abyss. Part two of David Thacker's appropriately claustrophobiproduction contains the memorable speech from Willy Loman's stoical wife (Rosemary Harris) in which she sets out the essence of the play. Willy is not rich or famous, nor the finest character who ever lived, but a small man's tragedy can be just as terrible as a great one's. A noted stage director, not least of Miller's works. Thacker here exploits the fluidity of the television camera and its ability, through the close-up, to home in on emotion. Willy and his sons may talk boldly of plans for the future but they are hopelessly trapped and the production underlines this by setting them against a dark background.

Tomorrow's World BBC1. 7.30om

Not always noted for the gravity of its items, Tomorrow's World makes amends with a big'un. It is about keeping air travel safe when the number of passengers is calculated to double to six million a day in the next 20 years. Air traffic controllers currently rely on radar to identify the position of aircraft. The snag is that much of the world has no radat cover. The programme checks out an alternative system which tracks aircraft movements with satellites. It promises to cut hours off journey times and to allow a doubling of flights on the already busy north Atlantic route. After this, a new weapon against jewel thieves may seem a small thing. But a laser which can produce a "fingerprint" for an individual diamond is nothing if not ingenious. It is based on the fact that every diamond scatters light in a

Gardeners' World BBC2. 8.30pm - ...

An otherwise unremarkable Hertfordshire owner. Roald Dahl, writer of enduring tales for children, did not claim to be greenfingered but the horticultural enthusiasm of Felicity, his wife, rubbed off, Dahl's story inspired by a peach tree in his garden and if he penned no comparable adventure about the onion, it was a vegetable in which he took special pride. He also enjoyed his arbour of lime trees and pruned them himself. His widow gives Gay Search a guided tour. On the practical side the avuncular Geoff Hamilton celebrates what we hope is the onset of spring with a consumer guide to lawnmowers. With more than an acre of grass to cut, he speaks with authority.

Channel 4, 9_30pm As the Graham Linehan-Arthur Matthews sit-com sadly approaches the end of its second series, its success continues to evoke variously hopeless Irish priests and their imperious housekeeper is not the stuff of which good comedy can possibly be made. But good comedy does not need a cutting edge or even originality. It needs to be funny and Father Ted, in its easy-going and incongruous way, is indisputably that. The key is the sheer pace of the show, its moves orchestrated with as much precision as in a French farce. To this add the deceptively skilled performances, led by Dermot Morgan as the naive but resourceful Ted and Ardal O'Hanlon as his dony curate. A bit late, tonight's plot compels the clerics to offer sacrifices for Lent. You start laughing almost

TO THE THE THE 6.00am GMTV (5907864) 9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (s) (7623249)

9.55 Regional News (Teleters) (6447635; 10.00 The Time . . . the Place (s) (2043991)



Finnegan and Madeley (10,35pm)

10.35 This Morning presented by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnegan (44843881) 12.20pm Regional News (Teletext) (6467317) 12.30 News and weather (Teletext) (3393978) 12.55 Murder, She Wrote (s) (7345775) 2.00 Home and Away (Teletext) (s) (54230404) 2.25 Chain Letters (Teletext) (s) (54259539) 2.50 Vanessa (Teletext) (s) (4588713)

3.20 News headlines (Teletext) (7350268) 3.25 Regional News (Teletext) (7359539) 3.30 Rosle and Jim (r) (s) (8479775) 3.45 Zzzapi (r) (s) (8467930) 4.00 Talespin (r) (s) (2577355) 4.25 The Geeks

(Telelext) (s) (2570442) 4.55 Hang On (s) (4532336)

5.10 A Country Practice (s) (9670210) 5.40 News and weather (Teletext) (676713) 6.00 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (s)

6.25 HTV News (Teletext) (226268) k (Teletext) (182510) 7.00 Bruce Forsyth's Play Your Cards Right. Couples test their knowledge of

public opinion (Teletext) (s) (7341) 7.30 Coronation Street. (Teletext) (881) 8.00 The Bill: Value Added. Hollis goes

undercover in pursuit of the unscrupulous owner of a clip joint (Teletext) (6591) 8.30 The Upper Hand, Caroline discovers a different Charlie (r) (Teletext) (s) (5626) 9.00 Soldier, Soldier. The officers rebuild A

Company's morale after the death of Vinny Bowles (r) (Teletext) (s) (4607) 10.00 News and weather (Teletext) (97591) 10.30 Party Election Broadcast by the Green Party (790997)

10.35 HTV West News and weather (415794) 10.45 Entertaining Mr Wedlock. Behind the scenes of the entertainment business

11.15 FILM: Longarm (1988) with John T Tenesky and Whitney Kershaw Comedy about a tough US marshal's attempts to end the lawlessness of the post-Civil War New Mexico territory. Directed by Virgil Vogel (428022) 12.35 Hotel Babylon (s) (7255737)

1,15 The Good Sex Guide ... Late (s)

2.15 FILM: A Man and a Woman (1966) with Anouk Almee, Jean-Louis Trintigant and Pierre Barouh. Oscar-winning French romantic drame. Directed by Claude 4.05 Not Fade Away (r) (s) (5615027)

5.00 On the Live Side (92282) 5.30 Morning News (87263)

HTV WALES As HTV WEST except:

2.50pm-3.20 Wish You Were Here . . . 6.25-7.00 Wales Tonight 381510:

10.45 Friday Live (344626)

11.45 Hunter : 061684

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except: 12.25-12.30 My Story :6475336i 12.55 Coronation Street (3301997) 1.25-1.55 Chain Letters .79727133) 1.55 Home and Away (68334686)

2.25 High Road (54233591) 2.55-3.20 Gardeners' Diary (1919828) 5.10 Home and Away (3670210) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (32152) 10.35 Westcountry News (≥06046)

CENTRAL

10.50 Film: Stand Up Virgin Soldiers

As HTV West except: 12.55 Home and Away (3:01997) 1.25 Chain Letters (79727133) 1.55 A Country Practice (44122317)

5.10 Shortland Street (9670210) 6.25-7.00 Central News and Weather (381510) 10.45 Magnum (15255084) 12.40am Hotel Babylon (7245350)

1.20 The Good Sex Guide...Late (8832379) 2.20 The Chart Show (7332602) 3.15 Dear Nick (7726242) 4.10 Jobfinder (8134089)

5.20 Asian Eye (1720466) MERIDIAN

As HTV West except: 12.55pm-1.25 Chain Letters (3301997) 1.25 Home and Away (79727133) 1.55 A Country Practice (44122317)

5.10 Home and Away (9670210) 5.37 Three Minutes - Your Story (868268) 5.40 ITN Early Evening News; Weekend Weather (676713) 6.00-7.00 Meridian Tonight (32152)

10.00-10.30 News at Ten; Weather (97591) 10.35 Meridian News and Weather (492133) 11.35 Only a Game! (470881) 12.05am Tales from the Crypt (1232114)

Starts: 6.35 The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (8276930) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (34607) 9.00 The Golden Girls (14268) 9.30 Film: Back Room Boy (17354) 11.00 Cuttinge Edge (33978) 12.00 Sesame Street (34510) 1.00pm Siot Meltinin (37794) 1.30 Blue Wilderness (68857539) 1.55 Jimmy's (68825930) 2.25 Channel 4 Racing From Sandown (64086046) 4.30 An Inspecto Calls (794) 5.00 Pump: Noc Noc Odynl (5249) 5.30 Fifteen to One (666) 6.00 Newyddion (589249) 6.15 Heno (153666) 7.00 Pobol Y Cwm (401317) 7.25 Jiw! (669220) 8.00 Junior Cup (4133) 8.30 Newyddion (3268) 9.00 Snwcer: campwriaeth (4978) 9.30 Wild Britain (42539) 10.00 Brookside (95133) 10.30 Rory Bremner — Who Else? (202607) 11.10 Eurotrash (871336) 11.40 Flava (871171)

The Bachelor Party (523553)

Dog (19882) 9.00 Blker Mice (33442) 9.30

Clarissa (47133) 10.00 Rugrats (84152) 10.30 Real Monsters (39626) 11.00 Rocko (16688) 11.30 Doug (17317) 12.00 Sister Sater (20978) 12.30pm Pele & Pete

(16688) 11.30 Doug (17317) 12.00 Safer Safer (20978) 12.30pm Pele & Pete (58249) 1.00 Capital Critiers (91930) 1.30 Pet Shop 140220) 2.00 Wishborne (8133) 2.30 Rude Dog & the Dweobs (7510) 3.00 Count Duchafa (7268) 3.30 Migray Max (9355) 4.00 Tales of the Crypti-eper (8962) 4.30 Rugrats (4046) 5.00 Safer Safer (2713) 5.30 Odyssey III (8826) 6.00 Ren & Stmpy (5539) 6.30-7.00 Are You Ahad of the Dark-7 (9591)

10.30 Rc

DISCOVERY

CHANNEL 4 7 . A. & 6.35am The Wonderful Wizard of Oz in

7.00 The Bio Breakfast (34607)

9.00 The Golden Girls (r) (Teletect) (S) 9.30 FILM: Back Room Boy (1942, b w) with

Arthur Askey as a bumbling BBC employee who is sent to a remote light-house where he encounters Nazi spies Directed by Herbert Mason (17354) 11.00 Comrades (r) (Teletext) (33978)

12.00 Fruity Stories (r) (Teletext) (s) (94404) 12.30pm Sesame Street (n (68030) 1.30 Altred J. Kwak (r) (68857539) 1.55 Jimmy's (r) (Teletext) (s) (68825930)

2.25 Channel 4 Racing from Sandown Park. Live coverage of the 2.35, 3.05, 3.40 and 4.10 races (s) (64086046)

4.30 Fifteen to One (Teletext) (s) (794) 5.00 Rescue (r) (Teletext) (s) (5249) 5.30 An Inspector Calls (r) (Teletext) (s) (666) 6.00 T.F.I. Friday. Last in the senes presented live by Chris Evans Guests include the actor Richard E. Grant and

Zig and Zag Music is provided by the Cure and Sleeper (s) (30794) 7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (416065) 7.55 Book Choice John Carey reviews AS Byatt's Babel Tower (Teleterd) (s)

(759626)8.00 Fruity Stories. The last in the series takes a look at the vanishing truit of Britain and what can be done to save our native

species (Teletext) (s) (4133) 8.30 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (3268) 9.00 Cybili. American sit-com with Cybill Shepherd as a twice-divorced grandmother and struggling actor (Telelext) (s)



Dermot Morgan as Fr Ted (9.30pm)

9.30 CHOKE Father Ted: Cigarettes and Alcohol and Rollerblading (Teletext) (s) (42539)

10.00 Roseanne. Dan leaves the garage with an extended holiday planned and a pension cheque in his pocket that he World beckoning(Teletext) (s) (95133)

11.10 Eurotrash. Antoine de Caunes and Jean Paul Gaultier with another collection of items in doubtful taste (s) (871336) 11.40 Flava. The third in the eight-part

lopical satirical impressions (s) (202607)

(871171)

12.15am T.F.I. Friday. As 6 00pm (s)

1.20 FILM: The Bachelor Party (1957, b/w) with Don Murray, Patricia Smith, Jack Warden and Larry Blyden. As the drink begins to flow at a stag night, doubt and Mann (Teletext) (523553). Ends at 3.00

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision sup-

SKY OF IE SKY OK-IE

7.00em Us. 1.º27713, 9.00 Press Your Luck (8102 9.2b Love Connection (9331978). 1. Orah Winfrey (1752864) 18.40 Jeogs (2317978) 11.10 Sally Jessy Rephil (9618510) 12.00 Beechy (61688) 1.00 m Hotel (70336) 2.00 Geraldo (4142: 3.00 Court IV (6510) 3.30 Oprah Winfrey (5270269) 4.15 Undun (9827775) 5.00 Star Trek. The Next Generation (7682) 6.00 The Smpsons (4881) 6.30 Jeogardy (5133) 7.00 LAPO (8591) 7.30 M*A*S*H (1317) 6.00 3rd Rockform the Sun (4539) 8.30 Jimmy's (3046) 9.00 Wigher, Texas Ranger (20356) 10.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (23442) 11.00 Metrose Place (74249) 12.00 Lates Show (7859534) 12.45am Chil Wars

SKY NEWS News on the hour.
9-30em Cerdury (46171) 10.30 ABC
Nightine (21572) 1.30pm CBS News
(97317) 2.30 Perfament (53084) 3.50 The
Lords (3539) 8.30 Tonight with Adam
Boulton (38775) 7.30 Sportsline (14997)
8.30 Entertainment (1688) 11.30 CBS News
(75249) 12.30em ABC World News (62640)
1.30 Tonight with Adam Boulton Reptay
(51805) 2.20 Worldwide Report (73502)
3.30 The Lords (65447) 4.30 CBS News
(9029) 5.30 ABC World News (29263

Show (7859534) 12.45am Civil Wars (5826832) 1.30 Anything But Love (26350) 2.00 Hz Mix (9505260)

6.00em The Big Sky (1952) (45084) 8.00
The Girl Boat Usely (1957) (32775) 10.00
Visions of Terror (1994) (86997) 12.00
Authori Authori (1992) (55626) 2.00pm
The Viking Casen (1957) (14794) 4.00
The Long Ride (1954) (2794) 6.00 The
Samdlot (1993) (9480) 8.00 Car 54,
Where Are You? (1994) (61125) 10.00
When the Bough Breetin (1993) (707713)
11.45 Builet in the Head (1990)
41997959) 2.00 Where the Fibers Flow
North (1953) (285089) 3.55 The Manney orth (1993) (295089) 3.55 The Miss

(76572) 8.00 Baby Boom (1987) (86317) 10.00 Cobre (1986) (77905) 11.36 The Verdict (1982) (7908404) 1.45-3.20em The Mammy's Shroud (1966) (654282)

8.00am Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm (1908) (43626) 8.00 Avatenche (1975) (87997) 9.00 Aladdin (1993) (72978) 10.00 I See Ice (1938) (34539) 12.00 It's Only Money (1962) (53268) 2.00pm Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm (1938) (1236) 4.00 Avatanche (1975) (7220) 5.00 Aladdin (1983) (4012) 6.00 Bigfoot The Unforgettable Encounter (1994) (64958) 7.30 UK Top Ten (7355) 8.00 Claur and Present Deriger (1994) (5608040) 10.20 The Fugitive (1993) (85236201) 12.20am Sleep with Me (1994) (77669) 2.00 Dead of Winter (1997) (957319) 3.45 Escape from Ten-

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Mortes Gold takes over from 10pm to 4am.

Muppest Babes (49037607) 6.30

Whose the Poch (49465510) 7.00 Ducksies (10801249) 7.30 Quack Attack (10813084) 8.00 Chly 'n' Date (30082969) 8.30

Wonderland (30074930) 8.00 Under the Rub Crip in Data (1907/4930) 9.00 Under the Umbrella Tree (93093670) 9.30 Fraggle Rock (95495779) 10.00 Mupot Bobes (494568621 10.30 Pooh Comer (93094794) 11.00 Winne the Pooh (42483794) 11.30 Dumbo's Circus (42464423) 12.00 Desney (19635012) 1.00pm Fil.M Bachclor Knight (4904794) 2.30 Under the Umbrella Tree (90037192) 3.00 Winne the Pooh (97348084) 3.30 Ducktales (20049997) 4.00 Cusch Attack (90028404) 4.30 Chip n' Dele (80024586) 5.00 Cyberstar (84372274) 6.30 Filipper (37557713) 7.30 Holywood Lives (90025317) 8.00 Fil.M: Pats (99536404) 9.30-10.00 Dinosaus (15285671)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Olympic Magazine (26020) 8.00 Motorcycling Magazine (14917) 8.30 Mo-tors (21423) 9.30 Live Tenns (67559) 12.00 Live Formula 1 (57510) 1.00pm Live Torice materials 250 Magazine 270 Terms (2811864) 4.30 Mountainble (1572) 5.00 ice Hockey (5046) 6.00 Formula 1 (53794) 7.00 Live ice Hockey (888862) 9.30 Formula 1 (53713) 10.30 Tennis (19688)

SKY SPORTS 7.00am Sports Centre (58107) 7.30 Wheeling (68220) 8.30 Racing (11220) 9.00 Aerobres (26012) 9.30 Rugby Club (68317) 10.30 Formula 3 Racing (6538201) 10.55 Criskel Wanytekshiri v Leocatershire – Line (23065) 7.00 Sports Centro (60897) 8.00 Ringade Bosing (6818872) 9.55 Sports Centro (816625) 10.00 Crickel Wanytekshiri v Leocatershire (12822) 12.00 Sports Centro (7008) 1.00em Ringade Bosing (45008) 2.00-3.00 American Football (46027)

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00pm American Football Preview (9786572) 8.00 Writzling (9785220) 9.00 US PGA Golf Greater Greens Boto Open — Livo (9705607) 11.00-1.00am World Championship of Golf (3021249)

4.00am Thought for the Day 4.05 Worship 4.15 Ketz TV 4.30 The Custing Edge of Destroy with Wayne Malcolm 5.00 Votco of Victory with Kenneth and Glorie Copeland 5.30 Christian Music TV 5.45 Reformers

7.90em Guiding Light (8339423) 7.55 As the World Turns (1919355) 8.50 Peyton Place (3061968) 9.20 Days of Our Lives (8986733) 10.10-11.00 Another World (3667572) SKY TRAVEL

THE HISTORY CHANNEL 4,00pm Weapons at War (7433317) 5.00 Mystories of the Bible (4792442) 6.00-7.00 Biography (1857539) THE SCHEI CHANNEL

1.00mm The Sox Mulion Dollar Man (935-1089) 2.00 FILM: Caplain Kronos

THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL

11,00em Globerotler (7442085) 11.30
Amenca's Great Oudoors (8200862)
12,30pm Space of Life (182220) 1.00
Getaway (3651171) 1.30 Great Escapes
(1831591) 2.00 E Report (4798055) 2.30
Crussing the Globo (5202201) 3.00 Globerotler (4778862) 3.30 Around the World
(7881084) 3.55-4.00 Holiday Shop
(10960510)

Rempling in The Verdict (Sky Movies Gold 11.35pm)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

9.00em Surprise Chets (3534065) 9.30 Gerdoners Diary (1407220) 10.00

. 4

Gardoners' Diary (1407220) 10.00 Slagestruck (4483404) 10.30 Our House (3530239) 11.00 Room for Improvement (7615317) 11.30 Craitwise (7616046) 12.00 Aufa Child (3514201) 12.30pm The Frugal Gournel (1418336) 1.00 Yan Con Cook 2.00 Our House (8955133) 2.30 Gardens Without Barders Spocial (6820084) 3.00 Screaming Reels (8974268) 3.30-4.00 This 7.00am Angels (1564046) 7.30 Neighbours (1576891) 8.00 Sons and Daughlers (3513572) 8.30 EastEnders (3545171) 9.00

(351.572) 4.30 EastEnDorft (351.572) 7.300 The Bill (3536423) 9.30 The Sulfivans (1416978) 10.00 Bergorac (1572065) 11.00 Bulkayle (7617775) 11.30 Odd One Out (9601822) 12.05pm Son: and Daughters (2220533) 12.30 Nagripour. (1410794) 1.00 EastEnders (4952881) 1.35 Syles (2006230) 9.01 Text Labor Date (2013171)

(6801959) 4.00 Minder (7831355) 5.00 Every Second Counts (8708323) 5.45 'Alio 'Alio! (9394355) 6.25 EastEnders (9683171)

7.00 The Best of Top of the Pops (4318201) 8.00 Bufssye (8977355) 8.30 To the Manor Born (8956862) 9.00 Lyton's Dany (4345713) 10.00 The Bit (2416317) 10.35 Fathy, Rich and Cadlap (2077269) 17.15 Fill.M Fint The Sure Thing (2274572) 1.10em Curet Confidential (1298114) 2.05.4.00 Stoppone (1037911)

6.00am Pugwal (50794) 6.30 Degrassi Junor High (78626) 7.00 Raady or Noi (61643) 7.30 Californa Dreams (89220) priosity Fast Castorna Libeatts (1952/1) 8,00 Bytes Grove 156317 8,30 Saved by the Bell (55688) 9,00 Pink Panther (79268) 9,30 Garfield and Fisends (83959) 10,00 Epk the Cat (99978) 10,30 Crepty Crawlers (68152) 11,00 Cosper and Firends (52404) 11,30 Dimodabes (53133) 12,00 Berrey and Fisends 1594041 12,30pm Timy and 2.30 Tiny and Crew (1152) 3.00 Eek the Cal 6794) 3.30 Pink Parither (3997) 4.00 California Dreams (2404) 4.30-5.00 Seved by the Bell (8568)

and Frends (59404) 12.30pm Tiny and Crew (78220) 1.30 Sesame Street (88249)

NICKELODEON

8.00am Banana Sandwich (67572) 7.00 Kāor Tornatoos (58189) 7.30 Pet Shop (11794) 8.00 Wishbone (10591) 8.30 Rude

Humen-Nature (680,0220) 5.00 1/235/16 Humlers (8979713) 6.30 Voyager (6891572) 6.00 Ambulance! (5827713) 6.20 Beyond 2000 (851859) 7.30 Mystenes: Margic and Miracles (6818249) 8.00 Jurassca 2 (433359) 9.00 American Justico Filos (433359) 10.00 Classic Wheels (4346442) 12.00 FILM The Hideous Sun Demon (8813336) 1.30pm Death Valley Days (1404133) 2.00 Return of the Santi (4489359) 3.00 Demoer Man (751488) 4.00 FILM: Take This Job and Shove it (8955510) 6.00 Demoer Man (6825539) 6.00 The Cossep Show (9538713) 7.30 Weekly World News (5805775) 8.00 Peturn of the Seint (4327317) 9.00 UFO (4330881) 10.00-12.00 FILM The Best of Times (7613959)

> PARAMOUNT 7.00pm Diffrent Strokes (9249) 7.30 Entertamment (5775) 8.00 Due South (44959) 9.00 Soap (29152) 9.30 Text (61713) 10.00 Framer (21607) 10.30 (8173) 10.00 Fraser (21607) 10.50 Frontine 2 (30355) 11.00 Bob (31997) 11.30 Dr Katz (80336) 12.00 The Vacant Lot (64356) 12.30mm Benson (24244) 1.00 Wings (20602) 1.30 Laverne 8 Shirtly (77008) 2.00 Entertainment (64621) 2.30 Frontine 2 (83756) 3.00 Bob (40466) 3.30-

8,00am Kiroy (5544171) **7.00** Esther (4739713) **7.30** The Young and the Restless (4546978) **8.30** Gardenors' World 693450461 9 00 Mactarchal 05 (6366501)

Springer Show (8354826) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (8830591) 11.55 Food and Drink (4649152) 12.30pm Dungerous Women (9111336) 1.25 Crosswis (6481794) 2.00 Agony Hour (2144775) 3.00 Live at Times (6429249) 4.00 Intatuation UK Live at Times (\$429249) 4.00 Imitatustion UK (207930) 4.30 Crosswifs (3773268) 5.05 Lingo (2899682) 5.36 Lindry Ladders (2099784) 6.00 Bewitched (2096607) 5.30 On the Bed with Paula (57771711 7.05 A Taste of Japan (9708797) 7.35 The Joket's Wild (6630539) 8.05 Street Legal (9051355) 9.00 FillM Fetal Judgment (79894713) 10.50 Filler Tenament (79894713)

7.00 Trojai Pursui (8775) **7.30** Jake and the Kid (63201) **8.30** Duty Free (6930) **9.00** The Ruth Rendel Mysteries Wolf to the Slaughter (25389) 10.00 Treasure Humi (75846) 11.00 Streasure Humi https://doi.org/10.000/10.0000 10.0000 Human Huma 199756) 1,30 All Together Now (13824) 2.00 Big Brother Jake (17737) 2.30 Sirens (62534) 3.30 All Together Now (10824) 4.00

7.30am The Putse (98978) 8.00 Morning Mo Featuring Cinematic (522220) 11.00 Dance Floor Charl (59946) 12.00 Greatest His (52828) 1.00pm Musc Non-Step (42201) 3.00 Select MTV (66607) 4.00 Harging Out (25510) 5.30 Dial MTV (4826) 6.00 Scop Dish (1539) 6.30 MTV (Mexic (5591) 7.00 Dance Floor Charl (25323) 8.00 Exemps Mir (21794) 8.30 Amour (7113) 10.30 Singled Out (78539) 1.100 Party Zone (34930) 1.00 Videos (1809669) 6.00 Morning Mia (55843) VH-1

7.00mm Power Breaklest 9.00 Cafe VH-1

12.00 Heart and Soul 1.00pm Virily Years 2.00 Kim Wilde 3.00 Into the Music 6.00 Happy Hour 7.00 VH-1 for You 8.00 Beat Club 80.5 8.30 Weekend Review 9.00 Chrs kank 10.00 Virily Years 11.00 Around end

Around 12.00 Nightly Rocks **7.00am** Jaagran (46380201) **7.30** Zee Presents (37773997) **9.00** Shn Kirshna (26479152) **9.30** High Life (25827713) 10.00 Banec: April Beet (38122794) 10.30

Movie (29598143) **2,30pm** Burrysad (63261607) **3.00** Bharat EK Kho (27199959) 5.30 It's My Show (83065-23 6.00 Zabaan Sambhal ke (83262336) 6.30 Zee & U (83253688) 7.00 BBCD (27102423) 7.30 Namaste India (83342572) 8.00 Nevs. (27111171) 8.30 Antal-shan (27107378) 9.00-12.00 Hindi FLM: Paandav

CARTOON NETWORK/TINT Communius carbons from Sen to 7pm, then TNT (films as below. 7.00pm WCW Nitro on TNT (Where the Big Boys Play! (8565084) 8.00 Grand Prix (1896) (10953683) 11.00 All the Marbles (1881) (85846775) 12.55am The Teahouse of the August Moon (1955) (92930737) 3.00-5.00 Hysierta (1895) 42754755)

CNN/QVC

7.00pm James Monison 8.00 Bitton's Peter Games from the Royal Opera House 10.30 Hadyn — Missa Sanctea Caecilise 12.00-1.00cm Joe Zavirul Solo

Juffrey's Far Eastern Cookey 10,30 One Foot in the Past 1.15pm Heart of the Maner 2.15 World Business Report 2.30 Newshour Asia and Pacific 3.30 Tomorrow's World 4.05 Question Time 5.30 Holiday 8.05 Question Time 9.30 Film '95 12.10am Newsnight 1.20 Bittain in View 2.10 Newsnight 3.20 Window on Europe 4.05

BBC WORLD

SELECTY 5.00pm Bads of a Feather 5.30 All Together Now 8.00 Hey Ded 6.30 in Lowing Memory 7.00 Boon 8.00 Birds of a Feather 8.30 Duty Free 9.00 Pie in the Sky 10.00 Lovejoy

11.00 Tales of the Unexpected 11.30-12.00

FRIDAY APRIL 26 1996

Ince embodies new approach

Venables puts faith in his flexible friends

By Rob Hughes, football correspondent

THE meter is running and England have six weeks to turn the missed opportunities of Wednesday night into goals come the kick-off of the European championship at Wembley on June 8. "We haven't got long," Terry Venables, the coach, reflected after the game against Croatia on Wednesday, England's third goalless draw in six matches, "but I'm not unhappy where we've got to ... creating at this level is the difficulty. We had five clear chances against Croatia, and we will score, I'm convinced of that."

His conviction has to be strong. He has withstood almost two years of scepticism over his attempts, now coming into bud, to turn Englishmen into continental footballers. When, however, he says: "We just have to finish things off, it will be all right," it still demands a spectacular leap of

For. on Wednesday night. there were five teams representing Great Britain and Ireland: none won, only Northern Ireland scored a goal, and still we keep telling ourselves that England's league is the best, and our goalscorers are dynamite.

Robbie Fowler awoke yesterday to a strange contrast in headlines. On one page, he could read that he is allegedly the subject of a £10 million bid from Johan Cruyff at Barcelona, this to go with the also reported £7 million new boot deal to be laid at his feet in the summer. On the other page. the same scribes who deified him on Tuesday were damning nim for his prace of missec chances against Croatia.

Yet it was behind the profligate Fowler that England's real engagement became fascinating. We really did see that Venables's vision of asking players to step outside the blinkered mould of English play could work. Asking defenders to step into midfield, or forwards and midfield play-

ers to step back into defence, has been rather like inviting sighted men to read Braille. It can be done, but takes time and effort.

time and, on Wednesday, we saw how, little by little, things are transforming. Two players in particular. Paul Ince and Steve McManaman, per-formed duties alien to their instincts. Not only did McManaman forsake the freedom of Liverpool to stay wide on the left, but he also did as functional a job as Stone on the other flank of "tracking" back like born defenders to harass opponents. This they had to do with a three-man

defence behind them. Even more imposing has been the form of Ince in the two matches since his recall. Dropped after irrepressibly charging forward more than a

Hurst's ball Leading article David Miller Shaky Scotland

year ago. Ince has performed deeper and deeper, becoming, at times, not only the anchor but also an auxiliary centre back, when the occasion demands it.

"People talk about this 'Guv'nor' thing," Venables said. "If ever a position in a team needs a special player, it's the one I want from Paul now - and he can do it. If the opposition play two up, we need only three at the back; if they push three up, he's got to play centre hall. Whatever he wants to do, he can do. He's been a little bit of a worrier, uptight about the demands, but you could see that in all of

them 18 months ago." In Ince's conversion, we get the personification of England's attempt to marry a tactical awareness to the bludgeoning power, the physical directness that, coming from

the flanks, still palpably bothers foreign teams. The race against time is there in the England camp, and also outside it where Venables has Venables has devoted that named May 8 as the deadline for the likes of Tony Adams.
Steve Howey and Gareth
Southgate to prove their fitness for the European

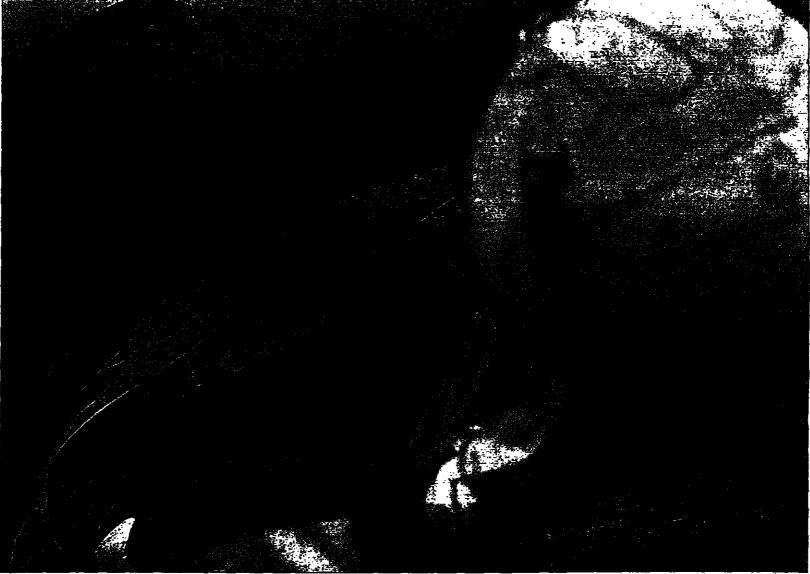
championship.
England have three games to fine-tune their approach, the Wembley date with Hungary on May 15, and then the sojourn to China and Hong Kong, returning with barely time to readimatise for the championship itself. The coach believes that En-

gland's course is properly set. Some committed Croatians wonder if their curve is beginning to dip; as the bitterness of the Balkans War recedes, perhaps the drive and fervour of their team drops with it, but there may be an organisational reason for the chances that they offered England on Wednesday.
Until Croatia qualified, they

had two coaches, Tomislav Ivic, the director of coaching, and Miroslav Blazevic, the team coach. The first believed in order, the second in liberty. They quarrelled, Ivic publicly stating: "We have great players, but we do not have a great team. They need to work more, practise more." Ivic was dismissed and, on Wednesday, Blazevic indulged three of his players, notably Zvonimir Boban, the half-fit captain, who wanted to play at

England's indulgence, of

another kind, entails the trip to the Unient. Venables g on a reconnaissance mission to Peking next week to inspect the playing surface at the Worker Stadium where, last summer, David Seaman, playing for Arsenal, broke an ankle in a pot hole. There is a clause in the contract that says that England will not visit if the pitch is not safe, and Venables insists that he will exercise it if there is the slightest doubt.



Brown gets in some last minute training before her appearance in the UK Living women's FA Cup final on Sunday. Photographs: Chris Harris



Record-breaker Brown finds secret of catching them young

RACHEL BROWN'S appearance in the UK Living women's FA Cup final on Sunday is just the start of a momentous few weeks for her — nine days later, the Liverpool goalkeeper takes the first of her GCSE examinations. Instead of mugging up on history. history, Brown will be making it by playing in the final against Croydon at

the New Den at the age of 15. Paul Allen became the youngest modern-day FA Cup finalist with his appearance for West Ham United in the 1980 final, but next to Brown he was almost a seasoned veteran. She is a year and 311 days younger than Allen was when he faced Arsenal and was denied a fairy-tale goal by an

Allen went on to play for Tottenham Hotspur and Southampton and this weekend, will be celebrating after helping Swindon Town to win the Endsleigh League second division championship. If Liverpool overcome Croydon, Brown's celebrations will be muted by the thought of those exam dates just around the

An invitation to join the women's England squad at Bisham Abbey

Sarah Forde meets the

teenager who is hoping to pass her biggest test

with flying colours

preparing for the European champ-ionship qualifying game against Portugal has had to be declined. She must return to St Christopher's High School in Accrington to sit the first of ten

The final appearance represents the end of a remarkable year of progress for Brown. Last season, she played for of the third division of the North West regional league. "Anyone who wanted to play football could play for our team, even if they could hardly kick a ball," she said. "So I got a lot of goalkeeping practice."

Visits to goalkeeping schools run by Bob Wilson, the former Arsenal and Scotland goalkeeper, were the key to her rise. She has been the only girl attending courses for the past three years and Mick Payne, a coach at the school, advised her that a move to a llow her talent to blossom.

Liverpool were the lucky benefactors of that advice and the retirement of Tracey Davidson, their regular goalkeeper, offered Brown an early first team opportunity. A six goal drubbing at the hands of Arsenal ir her first game did not daunt her and she exacted full revenge with an assured peformance against the same

opposition in the cup semi-final.

Her progress has led to three training sessions with the England squad and a kit sponsorship deal with All Sports, which will be signed alongside Tim Flowers, another of the company's signings, at Ewood Park women's goalkeeping coach, describes Brown as one for the future.

"Her basic handling skills are very good, she catches everything," Brown said. "If anything, she's a bit quiet. but, with more experience and confidence, she'll be happily barking instructions to the older players."

The match on Sunday will, though, offer her sternest test vet. "I'll be nervous," she said. "I get nervous for every match, but, on Sunday, I'll have butterflies everywhere."

Openers hold key to MARCH 17, 1996, could prove Sussex's opening pair were

Kaluwitharana,

ary was, admittedly, short, but

nevertheless this was scoring

In each of the four innings,

the batting side was well past

100 by the end of the fifteenth

over, when the restriction

limiting to two the number of

fieldsmen permitted outside

the "ring" ends. At the same

stage in the past, they would

have settled for 50 for one.

ACROSS I Playing well (2.4); tell (6)

4 With sharp, uneven edge (6) 8 Layer; one fastening (4) Integral/differential tech-

10 Not competent (9) 13 Brief moment (5) 15 Relieve; calm (suspicions)

16 'An Earl; a Firth; an eel (5) 18 Apiarist (3-6) 21 Passed through strainer (8) 22 III-disciplined child (4)

24 Poor-quality (material) (6) I Realise instinctively (6)

23 Quality of tone colour (6)

2 Arrow-maker; Beaumont collaborator (8) 3 Holy city of Arabia (5)

5 Pattern; original, perfect specimen (9) 6 Seabird; deceive (4) 7 Have longing for (6)

11 Handle spontaneously;

(mus.) repeat as heard 12 Swelling; 1944 Battle (5)

14 Divinely guided: very clever (guess) (8) 16 One in unsuitable place (6)

17 Attractive: rather (6) 19 Acclaim, cachet (5) 20 Fruit: sounds like vertical

The solution to 765 will be published Wednesday, May 1

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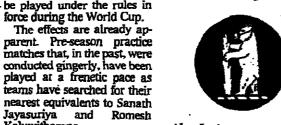
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tactical challenge

Martin Speight and Bill Athey. Speight is a wella significant date in cricket history. On that day, Sri Lanka won the World Cup known dasher and relished the challenge. More interest-ingly, so did Athey, who is a and, by dint of the brilliant and original way that they took advantage of the fielding renowned blocker and has restrictions at the start of their been criticised in the past for not playing freely. In Surrey's victory, Alistair innings throughout the tournament, caused a complete revision of strategy for the limited-overs game.

Brown launched them with a spectacular century, his third That is why county cricketin four pre-season outings. ers and coaches have spent the Last season, he was dropped intervening six weeks burning for batting too flamboyantly: the midnight oil in preparathere is little chance of that tion for the start, today, of the happening this year. He, Benson and Hedges Cup, which, for the first time, will along with countless others such as Nick Knight and Neil



Alan Lee's county prospects Those who think little of the for the new season 44

talent within the county game should have been at Hove last Smith, of Warwickshire, week, when Sussex and who took full advantage of Surrey met in two Benson and Hedges Cup mock-ups. In one the new regulations during match, Sussex scored 405 and a fixture with British Uniconceded 350; in the other, versities on Wednesday -Surrey totalled 390, Sussex have been given licences to replying with 240. One bound-

"We are going to see some pretty extraordinary cricket," David Gilbert, the Surrey coach, said. "I'm thrilled at the way the game is going.

One-day cricket had become dreadfully predictable, but the Sri Lankans have come in and shown everyone that anything is possible. For the strategy to work, the pitch must be a good one. It is no

good trying to hit out from the start if the ball is going sideways."

One of the reasons that England fared so badly at the World Cup was that, though they shuffled opening partners, they never got away to a fast enough start.

The real challenge of the

restriction on fielders is not to the batsmen, but to the bowlers. Should a fielding side aim at containment or taking wickets? Gilbert favours containment. "I think you will see bowlers being a lot more defensive, bowling in a way you would normally associate with the last ten overs of the innings," he said. "They will be firing it in at the block-

Daryl Foster, the coach at Kent, the runners-up in the Benson and Hedges Cup last year, would prefer his bowlers to attack. "We have had lots of talks about strategy," he said. "Should we open with a spinner, for instance. The first 15 overs is a great opportunity to take two or three wickets, but to do that you must retain a slip and a gully throughout. That's the way I think we will be approaching it."

The teams that do well will be the ones that adapt most readily to the new format. "It is going to require a change of thinking among the batsman and the bowlers," Andy Stovold, the Gloucestershire coach, said. "It will be no good playing the game the traditional Benson and Hedges Cup way."

Woe betide any spectator who arrives an hour late. He or she may miss the best entertainment of the day.

BSkyB in move to fund new tournament

By DAVID HANDS AND MARK SOUSTER

IF THE home rugby unions required further evidence of the financial support available to their restless clubs, they received it after a meeting on Wednesday night between Scotland's leading clubs and their counterparts from England and Wales.

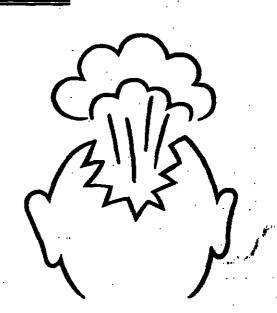
Melrose, Stirling County and either Boroughmuir or Watsonians would benefit by £2,865,000 over five years as part of the deal proposed by BSkyB, the satellite television company 40 per cent owned by News International, owner of The Times. The same funding would be available to the 20 teams from the five nations taking part in the premier competition of a two-tier European tournament that the clubs seek to run them-

Keith Robertson, the chief executive of Scottish First Division Rugby Ltd., stressed that the clubs seek to stay part of the Scottish Rugby Union (SRU), with whom he hopes to meet soon. "This whole thing stems from England," Fred McLeod, the SRU's senior vice-president, said yesterday. "I hope our clubs are not being led down a road which they will regret."

Meanwhile, Wasps are expected to announce today two significant signings, both English, and the flotation of the club as a public limited company. They have been linked with Simon Shaw, the England A lock from Bristol, while Bristol themselves are in discussion with Paul Burke, the treland stand-off half.

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